



The Planting Gazette

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Vol. II.]

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[No. 1.



Editorial Notes

The proceedings of the general meeting held on the 13th February appear on another page. A feature of the meeting was the speech made by Mr. J. Hall Brown, which met with applause from the supporters of both candidates for nomination. A contest is not a bad thing. It stirs up a number of people to think and to decide, and as this contest showed, it can be kept quite free of personal feeling. We were fortunate in having a choice between two candidates either of whom could be trusted to maintain the traditions of the Planting Member of Council. For the Rural Member is every bit as much the Planting Representative as when elected under that specific name. It must have come as a surprise to many to learn that a Colombo Agents Association had come into being. Certainly there seems scope for planters and Agents to co-operate in their common interests more than has always been the case, and if this new Association can help in this direction well and good, and we can welcome its appearance as the Chairman did in his lucid review of the past year. How many nails, by the way, he hit right on the head in that brief review! For sixty years the Planters' Association has been directed by men of whom it may justly be said that they were unselfish and disinterested and public-spirited and our last meeting showed that this spirit still prevails. The very hearty thanks of all Planters are due to Messrs. F. H. Layard and W. Sinclair for all their free gift of time and endeavour during the past year.

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The question of coolies food supply still holds the field as one of the most important questions the Planters' Association has ever studied. Aided by two representatives of the Chamber of Commerce the sub-Committee appointed for that purpose is pursuing investigation and a

practical experiment is now to be embarked upon. Samples of rice appreciated by our coolies are being sent to Burma and we are asking for 100 bushels of the rice nearest to that in quality which can be obtained in Rangoon. This will be issued to coolies on certain selected estates and the experiment will be watched by two planters whose experience is unquestioned and by Dr. Langley Hunt, C.M.G., whose well-known work and whose articles in this Magazine testify to his ability to form correct opinions on this matter. Burma rice is not prepared in precisely the same way as the rice our coolies are used to, so the experiment will be watched with very great interest. Among the matters considered by the sub-Committee was the possibility of purchasing Burma paddy and milling it in Ceylon to suit our requirements. The great difficulty, of course, is that the importer has to pay freight on some 30 to 40 per cent. of husk in addition to the grain. But we have learned, since the last meeting, that very large quantities of Burma paddy are exported to the United States and there hulled by machinery; so possibly that difficulty is not insuperable. From every point of view the question is of first rate importance. Purely financially speaking the stake at issue can be measured in rupees, and form figures before us, and already published we see that about two million rupees were lost on tea and rubber estates in Ceylon last year owing to the high price of rice. The coolies cannot afford to buy at the market rate and the estates have therefore either to raise their pay or to sell them rice at a loss. The latter course has been very generally adopted. It has been pointed out that this course amounts to the same as raising the coolies pay. In a way it does, but though the estate loses the cooly does not gain: the difference goes into the pockets—or voluminous equivalent—of the Chetty.

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We have been living in a fools paradise and have said "Plague can never reach Ceylon." Yet it has come. It is no use blinking it and remaining unready. There is an opinion held in some quarters that plague has existed

for years in Ceylon and has claimed as victims many whose deaths have been attributed to some other cause. This may be true, and it may be a fact that if we lynched every bacteriologist in the island and broke every microscope we should never hear of plague again. But that would not prevent people from getting it, under some other name. There is no reason to be scared, and there is no scare. But there is ample reason to be ready and armed with knowledge of what steps to take in the event of that grim disease attacking the Planting Districts. We hope that Government will see fit to provide instructions printed in English, Singhalese and Tamil in such quantities that every householder may have a copy for ready use. Each should be headed by the Oriental proverb "He who fears lightly is a fool, but a greater fool is he who refuses to make ready."

NITROLIM.

It has long been known that air consists of a mixture of approximately, oxygen one-fifth and nitrogen four-fifths. Oxygen can be obtained successfully from air on a commercial basis by Brin's process, which is shortly, the passing of atmospheric air over lime and soda to free it from carbonic acid, and then over heated barium oxide forming the peroxide by combination with oxygen, which on reduction of pressure gives off the oxygen again, which can be bottled in steel tubes in a free state, under pressure. This portable form of oxygen is used in the arts and medicine. Now that air can be made liquid and the boiling point of liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen differ by 22 degrees, they can be separated by fractional distillation which gives another source of oxygen. The nitrogen which is very useful in arts and medicine, in combination with other elements, is of no use in a free state, and has remained unexploited until recently as it is so inert or difficult to combine with other elements. For over a century scientists have been working with atmospheric nitrogen trying to combine it and make use of it. A great incentive in the research was given when it was discovered that a solution of potassium cyanide could extract gold and silver from finely ground ores. At this time potassium cyanide was made in a small cumbersome way by fusion of potashes, waste iron leather, horn and other waste nitrogenous material, the yellow prussiate of potash being formed from which potassium cyanide was ultimately obtained. This supply was insufficient for trade purposes and the nitrogen of the air was experimented on, the electric furnace being greatly used in the experiments, after many trials and disappointments the process was cut down to forming calcium carbide in the first place which combines with nitrogen at a high temperature forming calcium cyanamide. Dry and pure nitrogen is required for the process, else the re-action is reversible at the temperature of formation—1,300°C. The nitrogen is obtained pure by freeing air from carbonic

acid and passing it over red hot copper, the oxygen combining with copper to form oxide of copper, and the nitrogen passing over to the calcium carbide trays forming calcium cyanamide. The oxide of copper can be made into copper again by reduction and may be used over again. Later processes use distilled liquid air as the source of nitrogen.

Nitrogen being the most expensive unit for artificial manures and attention having been drawn, from time to time by scientists—notably Sir William Crookes in his classic address before the British Association—to the rapidly diminishing supply of the nitrate beds, attention was given to cyanamide as a source of nitrogenous manure, its origin being inexhaustible. Experiments were first tried in pots with pure material, and, success being shown, fields trials were made with various products. Success being then assured of cyanamide being used as a manure, works sprang up in Canada, Norway, Italy, Japan, etc., where there was sufficient water power to give a constant supply of energy to develop electricity to give the great heat required in the electric furnaces used, until now the total output comes to 100,000 tons.

The first supplies of calcium cyanamide were not a success in this country as they were hygroscopic, and absorbed moisture to such an extent that a sticky mass was formed and dirty streams ran from the barrels in which it was imported, great improvement has taken place in the keeping qualities and the Nitrolim which is now placed on the market is a stable product and not hygroscopic. Nitrolim is the name calcium cyanamide goes under in this country. It is an impure calcium cyanamide with the addition of a little high flashing point oil to prevent dustiness and sufficient water added to decompose the residues of calcium carbide, preventing the formation of combustible acetylene in transit and on addition to the soils.

Nitrolim is sold either in powder form or in lumps—granulated form,—the latter is made by wetting the powder pressing into cakes and then passing through the disintegrator and over a screen of desired mesh. Nitrolim consists of about 50 per cent. calcium cyanamide, 20 per cent. lime, 14 per cent. of free carbon, 2.4 per cent. of iron. On examination in the laboratory it is found to be nearly all soluble in water, leaving a black residue of carbon, the solution is strongly alkaline due to the free lime present, the nitrogen content varies between 18-19 per cent., and is fairly constant.

Storage does not affect the quality of Nitrolim, as although there is a slight fall in the percentage of nitrogen, there is an increase in weight due to the absorption by the free lime of carbonic acid and moisture from the atmosphere, this amounts to 5.7 per cent., so that the nitrogen percentage is decreased by this amount, but the total nitrogen in the purchase remains constant.

On the addition of Nitrolim to the soil, solution takes place and hydrolyses sets in immediately forming slaked lime, which is precipitated by the carbonic acid of the soil, and cyanamide is set free this quickly passes to urea, then to ammonia and finally by oxidation to nitrates, in which

state it is absorbed into the plant tissues. The first steps of the decomposition can take place under sterile conditions, but a quicker decomposition sets in when bacteria and nutrient solutions are present, aeration has little effect, the action is quicker at a higher temperature and in dilute solutions; zeolites, iron and manganese in the soils greatly hasten the breaking down of the cyanamide, as these conditions are nearly always present to a certain extent in Ceylon soils, Nitrolim may be recommended with confidence well knowing that the cyanamide will rapidly form the more familiar forms, ammonium and nitrate salts. If the soils are acid liming should precede the application, or the application may take place simultaneously; with annuals, it is better to apply the Nitrolim a week or so before the sowing of the seed, or the seed may get burned with the quicklime present and, if applied as a top-dressing, may burn the tender young shoots and leaves. It is sometimes recommended as a weed killer for this reason, but it must be remembered that seeds are in the soil and these come on rapidly after germination, due to the influence of the manure, so that the effect is only temporary from the weed killing point of view.

Calcium cyanamide is still being experimented with and many interesting compounds can be obtained from it. Superheated steam passed over perforated trays of calcium cyanamide converts 99 per cent. of the cyanamide nitrogen into ammonia which can be absorbed in sulphuric or other acid forming ammonium sulphate or other ammonium salt. Nitric acid can be formed by oxidation and sodium, potassium, or ammonium nitrate made. Ammonium phosphate can be made by using apatite. By the introduction of various substances in the process more nitrogen is absorbed by the carbide, and lower temperatures of combination are obtained. Many organic substances can also be formed, such as urea and its group, guanidin, sarkosin, kreatin, methylanin, dicyandianin, acetone, etc., these will all be useful in the arts and medicine.

Nitrolim being a basic manure due to free lime present, is like Basic Slag, burnt lime and ashes inasmuch as it should never be mixed with ammonia salts, or there is loss of ammonia by volatilisation with nitrogenous organic manures the loss is smaller, but quite apparent especially the less stable or more available manures, such as Blood Meal, Fish-Guano, Fish, etc. Cakes are more stable. In these cases Nitrolim should not be mixed with these ingredients unless the manure is to be used immediately. Nitrolim may be mixed with superphosphates giving no loss by volatilisation, but decrease in availability passing from the mono-calcium phosphate or water soluble phosphate to the less soluble di-calcic phosphate which is however soluble in 2 per cent. citric acid, the equivalent strength of plant juices. The phosphate is not so well distributed through the soil by this reversion. When nitrates are present with acid phosphate there is loss of nitrates, the lime of the Nitrolim would prevent this, if a constituent of the mixture, due to the neutralisation of the nitric acid formed, similarly is the case, when muriate of potash is mixed with acid phosphate,

hydrochloric acid is given off giving no loss in manurial value, but loss due to rotting of the bags. The neutralisation of the acid by the free lime of Nitrolim would obviate this. The drying action of Nitrolim has beneficial results in mixtures and counteracts the hygroscopic nature of some ingredients. Taking all these points into consideration Nitrolim had better be added to the soil as a basic application along with other alkaline manures, such as a basic slag, burnt lime, potash salts with which there is no action. If other ingredients are going to be added the free acids present should neutralise the free bases, or else the manure applied immediately, before there is any action.

Nitrolim is quoted at Rs. 200 per ton, and works out at 50 cts. per 1 lb., of nitrogen. Other units are:—

Ammonium Sulphate	Rs. 0.58 per 1 lb. of Nitrogen
Sodium Nitre	" 0.59 " " "
Blood Meal	" 0.59 " " "
Ground Nut Cake	" 0.70 " " "
Rape Cake	" 0.92 " " "
Castor Cake	" 0.86 " " "

With the prices of manures advancing, due to the tremendous impetus given to agriculture the last decade, it is necessary to try and cheapen cultivation charges, and nitrolim is very encouraging in this respect.

In recommending Nitrolim as with other concentrated manures, care must be taken not to add excess, else rank growth follows which is particularly undesirable in the case of tea, as quality is sacrificed for quantity.

Coolies complain sometimes when working with alkaline manures, but if proper precautions are taken not to let the dust fly into their eyes, and in the Low-country, sacks are given for their backs, when carrying, they will not feel the burning caused by the lime on their perspiring backs and hands. A little explanation to them that the material will do them no harm any more than basic slag—iron-stone—which they well know, prejudice will soon pass away.

A. BRUCE.

CATTLE MANURE.

It is doubtful if the full value of cattle manure as a tea fertilizer, is realized by Planters in Ceylon. Rough and ready storage methods, and insufficient care in application must in many cases result in the loss of a very large quantity of the plant food in the manure.

STORING CATTLE MANURE.

In the case of galas, the manure should be kept in a water-tight pit at the lower end of the gala, the pit should have a sound roof to protect the manure from the sun and rain. It is essential that the floor of the gala should drain into the pit so that the urine, one of the most valuable parts of the manure, may not be lost. If the soiled straw from the gala is thrown into the pit each day with the manure, and a few pigs kept there, the manure will be found in excellent condition when the time comes to employ it.

In the case of sheds for native cattle, the building should have a water-tight wall and a sound roof. When the cattle are driven out each day to graze, the floor of the shed should be thatched with mana grass or other litter, this will be trampled into the manure during the night and will add considerably to the bulk and in a less degree to the quality of the manure. Pigs should also be kept in these sheds to turn over and thoroughly mix the mass. The shed need not be emptied till the manure is several feet deep.

Kainit spread over the sheds and pits periodically will also tend to preserve what is valuable in the manure. Care should be taken to see that the manure does not get dry as in this condition a large evaporation of ammonia will take place.

APPLICATION.

The cost of applying such a weight of material is heavy, and it is advisable to apply a large quantity to the acre to lessen the number of applications necessary on a given area, and also to make it more worth while to see that the manure is thoroughly incorporated with the soil. A sound application is 25 to 30 tons to the acre, in trenches 15" x 15" in every second line of tea. Such an application at a reasonable distance from the manure pits will cost Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per acre. The manure should be covered the same day as applied. This method will obviate to a certain extent, the crop of weeds which follow a dose of cattle manure applied in the usual way. The addition of 1 to 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda and 1 cwt. of concentrated superphosphate to 30 tons of cattle manure, will materially improve the results. Cattle manure should not be applied too fresh as its caustic condition may injure the young rootlets of tea.

If the suggested precautions as to storage and application are taken, the inevitable loss of plant food should be reduced to a minimum.

ANALYSES OF CATTLE MANURE.

These results are from fair average samples.

		Nit.	P.	Acid.	Potash.
Poonac fed cattle.					
1 ton manure contains	... lbs.	7.6	7.4	6.3	
Patna fed cattle.					
1 ton manure contains	... lbs.	11.4	8.4	9.4	

From the latter it will be seen that the opinion often expressed that manure from patna fed cattle is practically without value, is a fallacy.

If adequate care has been taken in the storing application and of the manure, we may take it that some 50 per cent. of the plant food in the manure becomes available in due course.

In England the plant food in cattle manure is not wholly exhausted in 15 years from the time of application, in the tropics this period can be considerably reduced, and probably 5 years is about sufficient.

Applying 30 tons to the acre and taking 50 per cent. of the plant food as available, we get from the manure per acre:—

		Nit.	P.	Acid.	Potash.
Poonac fed	... lbs.	114	111	94	
Patna fed	... lbs.	171	51	141	

It is interesting to reckon the cost of sufficient artificial manure to obtain the same quantity of plant food.

In addition to the value of cattle manure as a fertilizer its effect on the texture of the soil must be taken into consideration. It supplies a large amount of humus and improves the moisture retaining capacity of a soil, it makes a clayey and caked soil more friable and consolidates a sandy loose soil. In fact if the value of cattle manure as a fertilizer was nil it would be well worth while applying it for its mechanical action alone.

R. B.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER FROM N. STEWART TAYLOR, QUEENSTOWN, BADULLA.

This terrible cyclone and rains spoiled my trip entirely. There had been immense damage to roads, bungalows, and patanas in Uva and I was naturally anxious to get back and see how I had suffered. The cyclone was very fierce in Colombo on Tuesday from 9 till about 12-30 in the day, after which things moderated. The Bandarawella section of the railway from Nanuoya onwards is blocked with a lot of slips and the line won't be open till about next Wednesday, so my only chance to get home was to get to Newera Eliya and thence to Badulla by road. I went Up-country on Thursday morning by the 7-45 train. We had to transfer from one train to another on the Kadugannawa incline—a wet dirty job. The day was beautifully fine, yet we did not reach Nanuoya till 6-30. . . . got a carriage thence and reached a friend's house in Newera Eliya about 7-45. Heard the Badulla road was all broken up and impassable for Motors or wheel traffic of any kind. Newera Eliya is 36 miles from Badulla. We got four coolies and two rickshaws with two coolies each and started at 9-15. The most serious washaway was close to Hakgalla, where the road was almost entirely gone, and we had to lift the rickshaws across. From there to Welimadde where we arrived about 2-15 was a scene of ruin and destruction almost impossible to describe. Every $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile there was a big washaway, and between these, the whole bed of the cart road was washed clean out like a river's bed. We rickshawed from Newera Eliya to Welimadde (a distance of 17 miles) certainly not more than 8, to 10 miles. The remaining portion, rickshaws had to be pushed and carried across yawning chasms in the road. The most of the Welimadde bazaars had either fallen into the river through the erosion of the bank or collapsed owing to the awful rain. But the worst damage was next morning, when we started for Attampettia, a distance of 12 miles. We had only gone one mile, when the road abruptly terminated, and there

was the river bed and large boulders and rocks beneath us. No chance of carrying the rickshaws over, so we sent them back to Newera Eliya and trusted to our legs. For a distance of quite 300 yards the road had been washed clean away. A bridge had been there: it was gone. We scrambled over boulders and through water till we got to the road again and had to climb up 20 to 30 feet to reach it. We had only gone another $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ a mile, when another huge deep chasm yawned in front of us. Down this we scrambled and up the other side and so onwards. The whole road was simply torn out, and like the bed of a stream the very foundation being exposed. When we came to Attampettia Tea Factory at the side of a very large river, we saw the bridge had gone—a very large new one. One pier was standing and two gone. A long swinging wire temporary bridge—one plank wide 12" had been erected with a thin wire to hold on to, to steady yourself. Unless you were able to regulate this you were done, but there was no chance of fording the raging river on foot. The factory was a pitiful sight. The flood had surged through it and swept the ground floor bare. It entered at one end and burst through at the other. The floor was a foot deep with muddy silt: the machinery all clogged and choked with mud: window panes smashed and gone and likewise doors, 250 chests of packed tea have been swept away and disappeared for ever. . . . We hardened our hearts and got on to the bridge, one at a time and crawled over. It was ticklish work and I felt queer. However we did get over. Then on we tramped again seeing the same ruin and devastation all along. Culverts and bridges all torn away and gone bodily. We reached the Attampettia pass about 11 a.m. and reached here without further adventures at 2-30 p.m.

The whole of the Badulla—Newera Eliya Road from Dikawella to Newera Eliya—a distance of 32 miles is practically destroyed from Hakgalla downwards.

The rainfall has been terrific. This road had been built since the fifties, and has always stood any weather hitherto.

NOTICE.

Advertising for Bolters.

The Coast Agency Committee discussed at the September Meeting the expediency of advertising in the Newspapers offering rewards for coolies who have absconded or bolted.

It was decided that this practice is inadvisable and the Secretary was directed to publish this decision in the *Planting Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary.

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

Tickets on the Railway.

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any

Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kanganyes proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

A Forms.

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September, 1913.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly,
14th October, 1913.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January, 1913.

Coast Agency Cess.

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the *Planters Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary P.A. of Ceylon.

**Extract from the Minutes of Planters' Association
Committee Meeting—13th February, 1914.**

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.—The following Resolution from the Proprietors' Labour Federation Committee was read:—

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

The following resolution from the Proprietors' Labour Federation Committee was read:—

RESOLUTION.—“That the Planters' Association of Ceylon be asked to elect three of its members other than members of the P.L.F. who are at the same time either members of the Federation

or employed upon Federated estates, to form a sub-Committee for the purpose of editing the suggestions received for the amendment of the Rules. This sub-Committee to have power to add to its numbers up to five members qualified as above and to have power to make suggestions for any desirable alterations which may not have been embodied in the correspondence dealt with.”

Several names were suggested and ballotted for, with the result that Messrs. J. B. Coles, E. E. Megget, and H. M. Picken were elected.

“THE MOTOR CAR ORDINANCE, 1908.”

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor in Executive Council, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 5 (1) of the above-named Ordinance, has been pleased to revoke regulation 56 of the regulations with regard to lorries and tractors published by Notification dated August 4, 1910, and to substitute therefore the following amended regulation.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, February 12, 1914.

By His Excellency's command,
R. E. STUBBS,
Colonial Secretary.

AMENDED REGULATION.

56. When the Governor has declared any road to be suitable for use by lorries, lorries may be used thereon (subject to rule 57) on the following conditions, namely:—

- (a) The extreme width of lorry shall not exceed 6 feet.
- (b) The load on any one axle shall not exceed 4 tons.
- (c) The weight of lorry and load shall not exceed 6 tons.
- (d) No lorry shall be driven at a speed exceeding 8 miles an hour.
- (e) The diameter of the wheels, measured over the tyres, shall not be less than 32 inches.
- (f) Every lorry shall be so constructed as to be capable of being turned entirely within a circle of 45 feet in diameter.
- (g) The wheels of every lorry shall be fitted with solid rubber tyres.

[Extract from the “Ceylon Government Gazette” No. 6,605 of February 6, 1914.]

No. 2,738 S. O.—On Saturday, March 14, 1914, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at Chilaw Treasury Office, the under-mentioned portion of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. An allotment of land situated in the Kumarawanni pattu of the Demala hatpattu division of the Puttalam District of the North-Western Province.

Preliminary plan 3,968.—Mudalakkuliya.

Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.	Description.	Extent. A. R. P.
487	Mudalakkuliyamukalana	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	... 258 0 0
Upset price at Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding this land can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plan of it from the Surveyor-General.				
Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo, February 2, 1914.				R. E. STUBBS, Colonial Secretary.

[Extract from the “Ceylon Government Gazette” No. 6,605 of February 6, 1914.]

No. 2,737, S. O.—On Saturday, March 14, 1914, at 12 noon, the Land Settlement Officer will put up for sale or settlement, at Treasury Office, Chilaw, the under-mentioned portions of Crown land, on the terms authorized by Government. Seven allotments of land situated in the Kumarawanni pattu of the Demala hatpattu division of the Puttalam District of the North-Western Province.

Preliminary plan 3,968.—Korakkulama.

Lot.	Name of Land.	Name of Claimant or Applicant.	Description.	Extent. A. R. P.
501	Karakkulamemukalana	... Crown ...	... Forest ...	... 927 2 30
506	Wembuwewa	... do. ...	... Abandoned tank and bund	... 1 3 12
508	Karakkulamewela	... do. ...	... Abandoned paddy field	... 5 0 28
510	Karakkulamewewa	... do. ...	... Abandoned tank and bund	... 10 1 5
512	Vidanegewela	... do. ...	... Paddy field	... 5 1 21
513	Vidanegewewa	... do. ...	... Abandoned tank and bund	... 2 3 39
514	Wembuwewawela	... do. ...	... Abandoned paddy field	... 16 1 19
Upset price at Rs. 50 per acre. Further information regarding these lands can be obtained from the Land Settlement Officer, and plans of them from the Surveyor-General.				
Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo, February 2, 1914.				R. E. STUBBS, Colonial Secretary.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

Recruiting Figures for January, 1914.

2,544 coolies passed through the agencies during January as against 3,491 in the previous year, a falling off of no less than 947 coolies. Owing to good rains at the end of the year, some falling off was anticipated, but not to such large extent and there are apparently other contributory causes. Recruiting for Ceylon does not appear to be so active as at the commencement of 1913. It must therefore be presumed that in some cases, estates have an ample supply of labour. Headquarters Circle shows the greatest falling off from Trichinopoly and Mannapparai. Other agencies have held their own. Madura circle shows a decrease of 31 only, although Tattaparai shows a falling off of over 50 per cent. Madura and Tinnevely, on the other hand, continue to show increase, conditions at the moment being all in favour of recruiting. The port agencies of Ammapatam, Tondi and Pamban collectively show a very slight improvement on last year.

CHITTOOR CIRCLE.—The results from Katpadi are unsatisfactory, but I consider that my endeavour to stamp out the professional recruiter in that agency may account in some measure for decrease, as a large percentage of labour that has been recruited of recent years from this agency undoubtedly been of the bogus description and the result to estates concerned has been unprofitable. The Telugu agencies have been doing practically nothing owing to the absence of Kanganies recruiting.

SALEM CIRCLE.—This also shows a substantial decrease, but reports from Mysore indicate that recruiting from that State may be more active in the near future, seeing that rain has been exceptionally scarce. Kuppan and Nanjangud should be patronised by those who have Canarese connections.

PALGHAT CIRCLE.—Results from Erode are very poor. Here again, the professional recruiter has had my attention. Malabar agencies, Palghat and Cannanore are slightly behind the same month last year. There appear to be few Kanganies recruiting.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Commission Notes.

KANGANY SUPERVISION AND ADVERTISING.

There are numerous villages that my Assistants are unable to halt at owing to the fact that there are no Dak Bungalows to stop in and it is these villages that know so little about Ceylon. It is for this work that tents would be invaluable, as it is absolutely essential that officers should get off the beaten track to obtain the best results.

DRINKING WATER.

There appears to be an impression in some parts of the recruiting Districts that water in Ceylon is not good. I shall generally comment upon this in the new edition of the advertisements, but it would be well if Superintendents would insert a paragraph on the Commission recruiting certificates in order to remove this false impression.

KANGANIES RECRUITING.

I direct attention to the Palghat Assistant Commissioner's note on the Cannanore agency, and I would also add that the difficulty of finding Kanganies in their own villages who are known to be in South India goes to prove that large numbers of them do not go into their own villages, but are in the habit of loafing in the vicinity of my agencies with the object of securing the services of the professional recruiter.

A. FORMS.

Superintendents should note that the general rules of this Commission provide for the payment of advances at the full rate per head in the case of all children who are over the full working age of 10 years. In the case of children between the ages of 5 and 10 years, half the rate noted on the face of the A. Form is paid to these children, unless a specific rate has been noted on the back of the A. Form in the space provided for that purpose.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S CAMPING REPORTS.

I direct attention to that of the officer in charge of the Palghat Circle who has written an interesting account of his tour in North Madura and Coimbatore and would suggest that in villages where he has indicated that labour is available, the report should be followed up.

COLOMBO FORWARDING AGENCY.

The Agent of the above institution has been requested once or twice to assist in the recovery of defaulters about to return to South India which, however, I am unable to instruct him to accede to without the sanction of the Coast Agency Committee who have been referred to upon the matter. The staff at my disposal for carrying out the work of this agency is also inadequate at present.

TICKETS.

In some cases Superintendents are posting these direct to the Head Office which procedure is incorrect, and I would direct their kind attention to the directions on the inside cover of the ticket book. Coolies should carry these tickets themselves, as without them signed by the Superintendents, it is impossible for them to receive assistance from my Agent.

RECRUITING PROSPECTS.

The usual recruiting prospect reports of February-March are appended. They indicate a satisfactory harvest generally, and it is probable that recruiting will not appreciably increase until it is over.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

GENERAL INFORMATION.**TINNEVELLY AGENCY.**

The Agent informs me that the crops round Tinnevelly will not give a very satisfactory harvest all round, although the cotton crop is said to be good. The heavy rains did not come at the right time and when they did come the larger tanks were breached and there has been a shortage of water since. I also heard that around Srivilliputtur taluk there had been no rain at all and that all crops both wet and dry have failed completely. I think that the construction of the railway from Tinnevelly to Tiruchandore will have an adverse effect on recruiting from this Agency during the coming year, as it will afford employment to a great many of the local coolies at satisfactory rates of pay.

MADURA AGENCY.

I understand that the crops generally will be poor throughout the Districts and that the establishment of the Indo-Ceylon Railway will improve recruiting prospects throughout the District.

TATAPARAI AGENCY.

Crops.—Wet lands will be all harvested by the end of February. The crops all looked very well and the harvest is expected to be good. The dry lands will be harvested at the end of April and their crops are also satisfactory. At present there is plenty of water in the tanks and a good harvest is expected on these lands, also at the present time all the residents of the District are in cultivation. Recruiting in Tiruchandore Taluk is likely to be affected by the construction of the Tinnevelly-Tiruchandore Railway and the employment of labour thereon.

DINDIGUL AGENCY.

Crops at Dindigul are expected to be good, but it is expected that a large number of coolies will be available after the harvest.

N. H. M. BOWDEN,
Deputy Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

ERODE AGENCY.

There is very little recruiting going on at present as most of the Kanganies are in Ceylon. An Assam Agency is being opened very close to our office, and I hear that Rs. 25 is being paid for a male and Rs. 40 for a female cooly. This is bound to affect recruiting for Ceylon. I don't know why it is that these Agencies locate themselves near the Commissioner's office, it is the same at Cannanore.

CANNANORE AGENCY.

This Agency has registered 339 coolies since it was opened, and the numbers registered have increased slowly. Provided Malayalams are wanted in Ceylon the Cannanore Agency is situated in the best part of Malabar. The Assam depot near by is sending a good many coolies. It is of no use Superintendents sending Tamil Kanganies to recruit Malayalam labour. The country in North Malabar is populated by Malayalees only. These Tamil

Kanganies loaf about the Agency and will not go into the villages to recruit, consequently they give the Agency a bad name.

DINDIGUL AGENCY.

Very little recruiting going on at present, Kanganies being on their Estates. Labouring classes are working in the fields digging groundnuts and harvesting paddy, cholam and Kamboo.

G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

JANUARY CAMP IN THE NORTH MADURA AND COIMBATORE DISTRICTS.

Leaving Palghat by the 2-43 p.m. Mail train on the 10th January, 1914, in readiness for a nineteen days' camp chiefly over new ground, I was prepared for not a few adventures. I arrived at Erode at 7 p.m., found the Travellers' Bungalow full up, so had to stay in Erode some days having several letters and anonymous petitions to study and other matters to attend to. Being on the spot I was able to go thoroughly into the matter interviewing the public officials, and I think I may safely say I have prevented any further trouble in this respect. Being the New Year one has to be prepared to receive all sorts of people who bring flowers and fruit, one amusing experience which was as a matter of fact I found rather annoying, is perhaps worth mentioning, occurred on the afternoon of the 11th instant I was working on the flatroof of the station buildings when far away in the distance I heard the town band apparently approaching, looking down on to the broad road I saw the band accompanied by a large crowd of people carrying flowers, fruit and garlands, to my surprise they stopped outside the station, some of the crowd bringing all the things up to the rooms, covering the large table in the front room, I had received the usual garland from the Agent, but as these things were brought by the food supplier who feeds the coolies at Erode whom we are not entirely pleased with at present I refused to interview him or receive even a lime, in any case I make a point of refusing anything of value from any subordinates, he had brought all the Kanganies he could find with him. I had a long interview with him the following day which will, I think, mean that he will behave better in future, I spent most of the day at the office and went thoroughly into everything. The following day I had to inspect the Agency which kept me in Erode until the night of the 12th, when I left by the 10-5 p.m. train arriving at Dindigul the next morning, found all in order, inspected the Agency, afterwards motoring through the surroundings of the town.

At this time of the year the Pongul feast in which all Hindus take part occurs, and the traces of the festivities were to be found in all the villages which I visited, houses were decorated with weird patterns on their walls, and on the ground in front designs were drawn in chalk

and coloured paint decorated with flowers, the chief event is the decoration of the bullocks which have their horns painted red and blue, thus painted they were to be seen everywhere, one beautiful bullock evidently belonging to a rich man with forehead and horns brilliant with colour was brought to the bungalow for my wife to see.

On the 15th I left Dindigul at 8-30 a.m. motoring over a bad road stopping at every village I came to, talked to the people and distributed notices, the first village was called Vackampatti, the people were very interested in all I told them, they had heard about Ceylon and people had gone there from ten different houses, they told me they were hearing from them and having money sent, they also told me several of the Tamil names of the Estates from which people had written and were working. They were only getting in India annas 4 for men and women annas 2 to 3. This is a likely village to get more labour from.

While at Shembatti I motored out to several villages and had notices distributed in the town of Shembatti, and some were pasted on houses. One village to which I went nine miles away was off the road, it is called Sevugampatti, I took the motor-cycle and side-car with my peon right into the village, it was undiscovered country, no one had been to Ceylon or Penang, apparently they have a certain amount of work and were content to remain in their village, there was no daily bazaar, a school of sorts, I asked for the schoolmaster to come and talk to me which he did, he helped me to tell the people about Ceylon while the peon was distributing notices. The cycle caused so much interest that when I motored away some of the crowd rushed up and stopped me asking that I would let some more people who had just arrived to see it.

Leaving this village I distributed more notices to people I met on the road, called at another village called Charadapatti, the people chiefly work on coffee and rubber Estates ten miles away, their pay being only five annas per day, I was not aware of the proximity of these estates until I had distributed notices and talked to the people. When I arrived back at the bungalow I interviewed the monegar who gave me some information, he told me that there were villages near by from where people had gone to Ceylon and would go. I may mention here that the climate at this time of the year is delightful as cool as a mild English summer.

I was fortunate to have arranged my camp the same day as the weekly bazaar in Shembatti, this I have mentioned before is the gathering of many people coming from many miles to buy their weekly supplies, there must have been thousands coming and going all that day, notices were distributed amongst these people, there is no doubt they were carried far and near, they were also pasted on the bazaar walls and on buildings. I motored through the bazaar, myself with my wife in the side-car, in and out among the stalls, causing a great deal of excitement, we purchased several things, the price asked

being so small that we paid more much to the amusement of the people, when the crowd became too dense we motored away.

On the 17th I left for Palakanattu only fifteen miles away, but the road was so bad that it seemed double that distance, this road was more thickly populated than any over I have motored, every few miles I stopped at some village or another, in no time getting crowds around the motor, some of the villages were off the road, seen partly hidden in the trees, and I had notices sent to them. I will mention the most important, the first was called Pariapatti, here the people were very stupid, not able to read their own language or understand it properly, after some trouble I made them understand something about Ceylon and they seemed glad to have the notices, said they would get people to read them to them. I might here say that my spelling of some of the names of the villages is rather crude because it is extremely difficult for an European to understand—the pronunciation of the low class Tamil cooly, at many of the villages there are no respectable people, one can only take down the name as they speak it, I have found the maps very useful being able to trace the important village at which I stop. Ramanathapuram was another village on this road, here the people were more intelligent, very anxious to hear all I had to say and clamoured for notices, many children were in the crowd, some of them decorated with flowers for the feast, I was much struck with the healthy look of the coolies in these villages, it should be a good field for labour, as far as I could ascertain they were only earning annas 4 in the fields and cutting wood in the forest. There were estates ten miles away, but the people seemed disinclined to go to them.

The next village was called Dharamutthanpatti, here a small boy read the notice in a very clear voice to a large crowd who listened intently, one man had been to Ceylon from here and had sent money to his people, I saw this man and spoke to him, he said he might go himself again, people were very keen for information here. If only a few men like this would return to their own homes giving pleasing impressions of Ceylon labour would be more easily procured. I stopped at Goindapuram where the people were rather stupid, Kannavadi was a large village, numerous streets and shops, very picturesquely situated at the foot of the hills, cattle in good condition, here I got a man to read the notice to the crowd, though there were a lot of well-to-do people there were also many poor, it should be a good place for labour. I motored through the streets delivering notices. A landowner came and spoke to me, he, of course, did not want the people to go to Ceylon. Pannupatti the next large village off the road where I waited until a large crowd gathered, they came in from all sides of the village, there was a great demand for notices. Also stopped at Kodavavi and from there onwards I met clusters of people all coming from a large village which seemed in a very flourishing condition, I stopped there and gave notices. There were no Kanganies here.

Sunday, 18th, I remained at Palakanuttu and distributed notices in the town. There was great excitement in the middle of the day when three men were discovered leading our bullocks away through the fields, evidently with a view to stealing them, they were discovered and there would have been a fight if I had not interfered, the men made the excuse that the bullocks were eating their cholam, but as they were taking them off in the opposite direction as fast as they could I did not believe them, however, I gave them the benefit of the doubt as I did not wish to be delayed, and they went away. In the evening I ran out 18 miles and back on the Dindigul Road, stopped at a small village called Reddiar Chatram, some coolies had gone from there.

On the 19th I left Palakanuttu for Virupakshi, stopped at a village called Salaputhoor, persuaded a man to read the notice to the crowd, Ceylon appeared to be very popular in this place, there were no Kanganies, there was work to be had on the Estates ten miles away, wages annas 5 to 6 later on in the year coolies go to Ceylon. The next village was Oddan Chatram where I spoke to the people and there was a great demand for notices. Sinnamalai was another small village at the foot of a hill, and the people were keen to hear what I had to say to them. In the afternoon I interviewed the monegar of Virupakshi one Vellian Servai, he said a good many coolies emigrate from these parts, though they can get good pay for forest work. There is a good deal of tobacco cultivation about here which is sent to Ceylon and Burma. Virupakshi is not by any means a large village, only about 270 houses, but there are numerous villages across country. There was a Kangany living in a village close by, but he was in Ceylon then. I had to spend some time over the motorcycle here as it had lost power, after putting in a new exhaustive valve I went out in the afternoon to try it.

On the 20th morning I motored up the only road off the main road to a large village of a thousand houses called Tangachiyampatti, here I had some interesting experiences, the people were most keen to hear about Ceylon, and they were most anxious to ask me about a man who went there sometime ago and had from time to time taken coolies from the village, his mother came to see me herself with a letter she had had from him, she was very anxious to see him back, in fact the villagers told me that if this man returned to his home from Ceylon many people would go from his village. They gave me the letter, they were anxious to have my address and said they would send me the names of others who had gone to Ceylon, they complained that out of all the people who had gone to Ceylon from this village only one or two had written or been heard of again, they also were under the impression that the water in Ceylon was bad, in fact I often hear this remark. The people were strong, healthy and numerous, they had just caught a jackal which is no easy matter, it was brought for me to see tied with ropes, it is evidently a great event in an Indian village the capture of a jackal, as the crowd were very excited about it, I had the poor

beast killed as it was wounded. I think there was the greatest rush here for notices than in any village at which I stopped, at one time I had to take the notices from the peon to prevent his clothes being pulled to pieces.

A hundred rupees had been sent to the village from one man in Ceylon. They made me feel that one Dorai coming to tell them about Ceylon was more welcome than any number of their own people. I have always found this to be the case in all the villages.

On the 21st left Virupakshi for Palany, a distance of thirteen miles, one continuous straight road with not many villages, I stopped at all of them, Gopalpuram was a small village, Chatrapatti a large one, here I met a native artist who helped me to talk to the crowd which gathered quickly around the motor, I was told that coolies go from this place, Tindalarpatti is another large village where I was asked a good many questions after giving the notices, one man asked for notices to take to another village, the crowd was very keen here. Stopped at Kannakkanpatti, a large town of 1,000 houses, from here there was a continuous run of houses almost into Palany town, Ayakudi a very large town close to Palany, crowds of people were here and many notices were delivered.

While at Palany I called on the only Europeans there. I also discovered two Kanganies, one Sinnappen of Gikiyanakande, and Guruswamy of Debatgama Estate. This should be a good field for coolies, thousands of people come from all parts to the temple. Altogether I was there days at Palany.

On the morning of the 23rd I motored 19 miles on the Udamalpet Road, stopped at Talaiyutti, a village of 700 houses, interviewed the headman of the village, the villagers of this place did not seem at all keen on emigrating, they said they got good wages. At a large town close to Palany (it really is a part of Palany) I stopped for some time and spoke to a good many people, they were keen on hearing about the new route to Ceylon. I had my peon in the side-car on this occasion and found him a useful interpreter.

On the 24th January I left for Dharapuram, stopping at Tembarapatti, a dirty village, full of dirty people, I reminded them of my last visit there more than a year ago, and asked them if any of them had gone to Ceylon, they told me that no one had gone, I fancy they have ample work. Also stopped at Toppampatti and Vilampatti and gave out a lot of notices. At Thaisanaickampatty the villagers were more keen and I found here a Penang recruiter, he told me he was sending ten coolies from the village, he saw me giving away notices and not to be outdone by me, he also produced some of his own highly coloured notices, one of which I took and I enclose it for you to see. This man was a well-dressed, confident fellow, the village he was in was his own native village. I had to cross the Amaravati at Dharapuram which is at present unbridged.

On the 25th January, I spent at Dharmapuram (Sunday), spent the greater part of the day attending to correspondence which I found awaiting me here. I also interviewed a Kangany of Ohiya Estate, one Marimuthu.

On the 26th I left for Avanashipalayalam, a distance of 18 miles, stopped at Nanjampalayalam, this was very early in the morning and I found the people very sleepy and dense (I have generally found the villager very thickheaded before the sun rises, I distributed notices and moved on to the next village. At Kaduppallipatti I found the people more keen, they told me that people had been to Natal and the Straits, but not to Ceylon. I also halted at Suriyanallur, and Vengipalayam, at the latter village they also told me the same story about people have gone to Natal. On my arrival at Avanashipalayalam I found the chatram bungalow was such a wretched place that I decided to halt there only one night, the bungalow was almost touching the walls of the village and I had an interested crowd leaning over the bungalow wall until I retired to bed. I took the opportunity of questioning them about village debts, but they all assured me that no one in the village had any, they were a very independent lot and were quite happy in their dirty village, I should not recommend any attempt at recruiting at this village. I had stopped here for a few minutes with the Commissioner once before when he found them very disinclined

to take notices, I thought if I halted there a day I might get some satisfaction of them, but found they would not leave their village.

On the 27th I left for Tiruppur, stopping at Koilpalayalam and Puthaipalayalam, saw the village headman of the latter village who read the notice to the people, they were not very keen here about emigrating, evidently there is ample work about these parts. At a place called Chettypalayalam notices were eagerly asked for and I counted nine people reading different notices at the same time.

I remained at Tiruppur that day and returned to headquarters on the 28th January. The 27th was the weekly bazaar day at Tiruppur and I had a lot of notices distributed with the result that a very likely man came to see me in the evening who wanted to go to Ceylon first and then come back and recruit labour.

Total distance run by Motor Cycle by			
Speedometer	...	...	208 miles.
Total distance by Train	...	...	297 "
Total			505 miles.

G. S. DUPEN,

Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

February 1st, 1914.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched in January from each Agency during the years 1911, 1912, 1913 & 1914.

Agencies.		1911.	1912.	1913	1914.
Headquarter Circle.					
1.	Trichinopoly	576	740	994	740
2.	Tanjore	37	42	109	111
3.	Turaiyur	1	5	5	16
4.	Musiri	13	3	20	13
5.	Puducottah	65	89	56	44
6.	Manapparai	—	111	224	28
		692	990	1,408	952
Chittoor Circle.					
7.	Chingleput	59	120	99	55
8.	Arkonam	102	201	87	114
9.	Villapuram	126	118	166	118
10.	Katpadi	297	216	252	102
11.	Coconada	33	—	6	closed
12.	Cuddapah	—	4	15	12
13.	Nellore	—	9	17	7
14.	Guntur	—	—	—	2
15.	Chittoor	—	—	—	—
16.	Anantapur	—	89	closed	closed
17.	Madras	139	closed	do	do
		756	757	642	410

Agencies.		1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Madura Circle.					
18.	Tataparai ...	123	256	267	122
19.	Madura ...	122	275	220	293
20.	Tinnevely ...	83	94	121	133
21.	Ammapatnam ...	29	8	43	35
22.	Tondi ...	50	109	111	111
23.	Pamban ...	33	8	11	48
		440	750	773	742
Salem Circle.					
24.	Salem ...	28	126	63	42
25.	Baugalore (Kuppam) ...	86	23	22	5
26.	Hubli ...	—	—	19	Closed
27.	Guntakal ...	—	6	76	22
28.	Tirupatur ...	—	—	—	6
29.	Namakal ...	—	—	18	23
30.	Dharmapuri ...	—	—	—	9
31.	Atur ...	—	—	3	21
32.	Nanjangud ...	—	—	—	19
		114	155	201	147
Palghat Circle.					
33.	Erode ...	166	134	145	50
34.	Dindigul ...	82	75	163	140
35.	Karur ...	15	46	64	30
36.	Palghat ...	—	36	84	38
37.	Tirur ...	—	—	6	closed
38.	Cannanore ...	—	—	—	35
		263	291	467	293
		2,265	2,943	3,491	2,544

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Madura Agency.						
Madura	...	Fair	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	A good deal of labour is available in the Madura Districts, I have just been camping in the North Madura District, and have visited a large number of villages and have done a lot of advertising.
	Madura ...					
	Melur ...					
	Periakulam ...					
	Nelakottai ...					
	Thirumangalam ...					
	Palany ...					
	Dindigul ...					
	Ramnad ...					
	Thirupuvanam ...					
	Sivaganga ...					
	Thirupathur ...					
	Mana Madura ...					
Paravagudy ...						
Kamuthy ...						

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects,	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks,
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Erode Agency.						
Coimbatore ...	Erode ...	Crops are Good	4 to 5	2 to 3	Not very good	There is a great deal of work still going on in the fields.
	Bhavani ...					
	Gobichetty-palayam ...					
	Palladam ...					
	Peria Dharampuram ...					
	Satyamangalam ...					
	Avanashi ...					
	Udamalpet ...					
Pollachi ...						
Kollegal ...						
Karur Agency.						
Trichinopoly and Coimbatore.	{ Karur and Dharapuram... }	Good	3 to 5	2 to 3	Not very good	Coolies are mostly employed in the fields.
Palghat and Cannanore Agency.						
Malabar ...	Palghat ...	Paddy crop is over now.	3 to 4	2 to 0.2-6.	Fair	Prospects are good in North Malabar, not quite so good in the South of the District.
	Walawanad ...					
	Ponani ...					
	Calicut ...					
	Ernad ...					
	Kottayam ...					
	Kurumbanad ...					
	Chirakal ...					
G. S. DUPEN, Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 30th January, 1914.						
Salem Circle.						
Salem ...	Salem ...	Poor	4	2	Good	The magnesite works are temporarily closed and harvest season is over.
	Trichengode ...	Poor	4	2	Fair	A few local Zemindars discourage recruiting, as the magnesite works are temporarily closed.
	Omalur ...	Moderate	4	2	Good	Harvesting is over, rain has become scarce.
	Uttangarai ...	Bad	4	2	Fair	Paddy crop is being harvested.
	Attoor ...	Good	4	2½	Moderate	Labour prospects poor at present.
	Dharmapuri ...	Poor	5	3½	do	Some Canarese Labour is available.
	Hosur ...	Fair	4	2	Fair	Rain and plague.
	Krishnagiri ...	Fair	4	2	Poor	
North Arcot	Tirupathur ...	Good	5 child. 2½	3 child. 2	Moderate	Harvesting season at present, coolies available in March, April and May.
Coimbatore	Namakkal ...	Moderate	3 to 4	2 to 3	Moderate	Still harvest Season
	Musiri ...	Fair	Towns 5 to 6	Towns 3 to 4	Moderate	
	Perambaloro ...	do	4 to 5 in vill. children 1½	2 to 2½ in vill. children 2½		
	Kulitalai ...	Good	4 to 5	2			Moderate	Good rain

G. S. DUPEN,

Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner,

30th January, 1914.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salam Circle.						
Mysore	{ Nanjangud Channarayana Narasipur Gundlupet }	Good	5 to 6	3 to 4	Poor	Water is getting scarce, plague continues in parts. Harvest season not yet over.
E. B. LEVINGE, Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 7th February, 1914.						
Trichinopoly Circle.						
	(Manapari Agency)					
Trichinopoly	... Kulitalai ...	Fair	4	3	Good	
Tanjore	{ (Tanjore Agency) Arantangi ... Kumbakonam ... Mannargudi ... Mayaveram ... Nannilam ... Papanasam ... Pattukottai ... Shiyali ... Tanjore ... Tiruthurapoondi }	Paddy and gingili are sown in some parts, and paddy and tobacco transplanted in other parts of these taluks. Crops are generally fair, but paddy was damaged in some taluks by the recent heavy rains. Harvested paddy, groundnut and ragi.	4 to 5	3 to 4	Not favourable	Grain stock and water supply sufficient and local employment available.
	(Ammapatnam Agency)					
	{ Pattukottai ... Arantangi ... }	Fair	3 to 6	3 to 4	Fair	
	(Puducottah Agency)					
	{ Tirumayam ... Kolatur ... Alangudi ... }	Wet and dry crops in a flourishing condition.	6 5 5	4½ 3½ 3½	Not favourable	Collection of groundnut is vigorously going on and harvest of other crops is nigh a hand. Recruiting prospects are not good.
	(Pamban and Tondi Agencies.)					
	{ Tiruvadani ... Tirupathur ... Sivaganga ... Paramakudi ... Ramanad ... }	Fair to good	4 to 6	3 to 4	Not good	Water supply is sufficient and the labourers are still engaged on the fields.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Trichinopoly Circle.						
	(Tataparai Agency)					
	(Tinnevely Agency)					
Tinnevely ...	Ambasamudram	Good	5½	3	Not favourable	Water supply is sufficient and labourers are still engaged on the fields.
	Tinnevely ...	do	6	4		
	Tenkasi ...	do	5	3		
	Nanguneri ...	Fair	4	3		
	Sriyaiikundam ...	Good	5	3½		
	Koilpatti ...	do	4 to 6	3 to 4		
	Sankaranainar-koil ...	Fair	4 to 4½	3		
	Thiruchendur ...	do	4 to 5	3		
Travancore ...	Trivandrum ...	Fair	4	2½	do	

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Chittoor Circle.

Chittoor ...	Chittoor ...	Paddy poor, young ragi indifferent.	2 to 3	2	Fair
	Kalahastry ...	do	do	do	do
	Karvetnagar ...	do	do	do	Indifferent
	Palmanair ...	Paddy indifferent, young ragi poor.	do	do	do
	Vayalpad ...	do	do	do	Fair
	Madanapalle ...	do	do	do	Bad
	Punganur ...	do	do	do	Indifferent
	Chendragiri ...	do	do	do	Fair

Famil Districts.

North Arcot...	Arcoot ...	Paddy, cholam kambu and groundnut.	4	2	Fair
	Vellore ...	do	do	do	do
	Gudiyatam ...	do	do	do	do
	Walaja ...	do	do	do	do
	Polur ...	do	do	do	do
	Arni ...	do	do	do	do
	Wandiwash ...	do	do	do	do
	Arkonam ...	Paddy fair, ragi harvesting.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good
	Cheiyar ...	do	do	do	Fair
	Tiruvanamalai...	do	do	do	do
Chingleput ..	Chingleput ...	Paddy good.	5	3	Fair
	Conjeeveram ...	Ragi and paddy good.	do	do	do
	Madurantakam	Paddy and groundnuts are good.	4	2½	do
	Ponnery ...	Paddy, cumbu and cholam are good.	do	do	do
	Saidapet ...	Paddy good.	6	3	do
	Thiruvallur ...	Paddy and groundnuts are good.	4	do	do

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Tamil Districts.						
South Arcot...	Villupuram	... Groundnut system only are working and rarely paddy.	5	3	Bad	
	Tindivanam	... do	do	do	do	
	Virudachalam	... do	do	do	do	
	Tirucoilur	... do	do	do	do	
	Gingee	... do	do	do	do	
	Kallakurchi	... do	do	do	do	
	Chidambaram	... do	do	do	do	
	Cuddalore	... do	do	do	do	
Telugu Districts.						
Cuddapah	Cuddapah	... Harvest commenced.	4	2	Bad	
	Pulivendla	... do	8	4	do	
	Kamalapuram	... do	4	2	do	
	Royachoty	... do	6	3	do	
	Rajampet	... do	4	2	do	
	Sidhout	... do	3	do	do	
	Prodatur	... do	8	3	do	
	Badvel	... do	3	2	do	
	Jammalamadugu	... do	6	3	do	
Nellore	Nellore	... Paddy harvest- ing excellent.	5	4	do	
	Sooloorpet	... Paddy nearly ripe.	3	1½	do	
	Venkatagiri	... Paddy and cholam good.	do	do	do	
	Kovoor	... Paddy nearly ripe and ragi good.	do	do	do	
	Kavali	... Paddy nearly ripe, cumbu good and paddy being harvested in some parts.	4	2½	do	
	Atmakur	... Paddy harvest- ing.	do	3	do	
	Kandukur	... do	do	do	do	
	Udayagiri	... do	do	do	do	
	Rapoor	... Paddy nearly ripe, cholam and cumbu good.	3	1½	do	
	Podili	... Cholam, cumbu and paddy good.	do	do	do	
	Kanigiri	... Cholam, cumbu, green dhal and paddy good	do	do	do	
	Dharsi	... do	2	1	do	
	Gudur	... Paddy harvest- ing in some parts and cholam good.	4	3	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Telugu District.						
Guntur	Guntur	... Chillies, tobacco and Bengal gram are harvesting.	4	3	Bad	
	Tenali	... Paddy harvesting.	do	do	do	
	Satnapalli	... Cotton is prosperous.	do	do	do	
	Vinukonda	... Redgram and cotton are middling.	do	do	do	
	Narasarowpet	... do	do	do	do	
Anantapur	Anantapur	... Cholan growing poorly.	4½	3	Moderate	
	Hindupur	... Cholan and ragi good.	5	2½	do	
	Dharmavaram	... Cumbu and cholan good.	do	2	do	
	Gooty	... Kadalay and cotton good.	5	2½	do	
	Kadirai	... Cotton and cumbu good.	do	do	do	
Bellary	Bellary	... Cholan good.	6	do	do	
	Royadrug	... Paddy harvest good	do	do	do	
	Raliandrug	... do	do	do	do	
	Adoni	... Paddy good.	4½	2	do	
	Hospet	... do	do	do	do	
Kottur	... do	5	3	Bad		
Kurnool	Kurnool	... Paddy average and cholan good.	do	do	Moderate	
	Nandiyal	... do	4	2½	do	
	Dhone	... Cholan and ragi bad.	do	2	do	
Palghat Circle.						
Madura and Coimbatore.	{ Dindigul Palany Kulitalai	{ }	Good	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair.
						Harvesting will shortly be over when coolies will be without much work.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,

Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.



FEE FOR ISSUE FOR DUPLICATES.

Colombo Kachcheri,
2nd February, 1914.
THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

SIR,

I have the honour to state that in future the following fees, authorised by a Government General Order, will be charged for searching for and copying (a) bills for tin tickets expenses of coolies and (b) Ragama Certificates issued under Ordinance No. 9 of 1909.

For searching for and copying the records of one year or under cents 50.

For each additional year cents 25.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
H. R. FREEMAN,
Government Agent, W.-P.
C. W. BICKMORE,
Office Assistant.

CHANGE OF TIN TICKETS.

Colombo Kachcheri,
January 29th, 1914.
THE SECRETARY,
Ceylon Planters' Association.

SIR,

I have the honour to ask whether your Association desires that a new shape (diamond) of tin tickets should be started; if so, it can be done.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
H. R. FREEMAN,
Government Agent, W.P.

KANDY CEMETERIES RECLAMATION COMMITTEE.

The Committee appointed by the Planters' Association in March last to go into the question of the neglected and untidy appearance of the Kandy Cemeteries is glad to report an improved state of affairs although much still remains to be done.

The Kandy Municipality have been approached on the subject and have already effected a considerable improvement in the general appearance of the Cemeteries and in the road leading thereto. Some of the trees have been hinned out and other clearing effected, giving to the Cemeteries a much more tidy and cared-for appearance.

A rough survey is being made, and, when this is completed, a booklet will be printed and published so that graves can be easily located.

Charge of the Military Cemetery has been handed over by Government to the Public Works Department who have rebuilt the surrounding wall which had fallen into a very bad state of repair, and are doing what is possible to improve the general appearance.

Government have been asked through the Colonial Secretary whether they might be willing to undertake a similar survey of this Cemetery.

As to individual graves needing attention the Committee is arranging to have these put in a proper state of repair; cleaning, and where necessary, relettering the stones.

The Presbyterian Minister, although according to the Ordinance the care of the Cemetery is entirely in the hands of the Municipality and out of his control, is interesting himself in the work and assisting in every way he can towards the aims of the Committee in this matter.

The Committee desires to make special record of the zeal and energy of Mr. P. R. Shand (the originator of the movement) in this effort on the part of the European Community in Ceylon to preserve from neglect the graves and memories of compatriots.

By Order of Committee,

HON. SECRETARY,
K.C.R.C.

Kandy, 31st January, 1914.

P.S.—The Trustees of the Scots' Kirk have now arranged for a visitor to inspect their Cemetery each week and are doing everything they can to co-operate with the Committee.

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya at 3 p.m. on Thursday, 8th January, 1914.

Present:—The Director of Agriculture (in the Chair) the Government Botanist and Mycologist, the Government Entomologist, the Government Chemist, the Rubber Research Chemist, the Assistant Botanist and Mycologist the Manager, Peradeniya Experiment Station, the Hon. the Government Agent, Central Province, Messrs. N. G. Campbell, M. L. Wilkins, G. C. Bliss, H. D. Garrick, C. E. G. Pandittesekera, G. H. Gollidge, Mudaliyar A. E. d. S. Rajapakse, H. Inglis, H. F. Macmillan, G. H. Masefield, R. G. Coombe, and as visitors Professor Dunstan and Messrs. S. S. Garrick, A. Bruce, H. M. Picken, P. A. Keiller, A. L. F. Evans, G. J. Pichthall, and H. A. Beachcroft.

The Chairman opened proceedings by welcoming Professor W. R. Dunstan, Director of the Imperial Institute London, to Ceylon, which was met with hearty applause.

2. SMOKE CURE APPARATUS.—Referring to paragraph 2 of the last minutes, the Chairman said that there were various Smoke Cure Apparatus under construction with the object of adapting the method to plantation purposes and overcoming the smoke difficulty. He thought there was considerable scope for improvement.

Mr. Wilkins thought the market was too fickle and that therefore Planters were not likely to invest money till they had something more definite to go upon. Mr. Beachcroft thought the experiments were well worth continuing.

The Chairman said investigations were being continued and that a quantity up to two tons was being cured by the Colombo Commercial Company's Smoking Apparatus at New Peradeniya Estate, and that this would be available for report. This machine was not on the market but was open for inspection by *bona fide* Planters.

Mr. Masfield asked what was happening to David Bridge's Machine.

Professor Dunstan replied that he believed it was already made in England, but that they were waiting for latex to carry out certain experiments.

3. The Chairman, referring to paragraph 5 of the last minutes, said that Mr. Bamber's Tea Bulletin was now ready to be published. It would contain the results of the experiments conducted at Gangarooa brought up to date as well as those of Dessford.

4. SHOT-HOLE BORER.—Mr. Wilkins, referring to paragraph 7 of the last minutes, wished to state that he had since talked over the matter with Mr. R. G. Coombe, and they had arrived at the conclusion that their different methods of dealing with Shot-hole Borer were not so radically at variance as the minute implied.

The Chairman said the resolution concerning the Shot-hole Borer had been duly forwarded to Government and he believed it was receiving favourable consideration.

The minutes of November, the 13th, were then passed.

• 6. PADDY.—The Chairman then took item No. 3 on the agenda on paddy cultivation. He stated he had received eleven papers from members of the Staff and of the Board of Agriculture. Mr. Driberg had submitted a Memorandum on his views of the question brought up by Mr. Beven. Mr. de Silva had written a paper on Paddy and others had also written on the subject. The Chairman considered that the question should be viewed from three standpoints, namely, the improvement of cultivation, the increase of yield, and the extending of the area under cultivation. He believed there was not much scope for improvement in cultivation, owing firstly to the cramped areas, though in the north bigger spaces were available; secondly the unwillingness of the Goya to adopt more modern methods, such as better ploughs to plough the land when dry. Stirring up the mud, the method of "ploughing" at present in vogue did not aerate the soil.

Mr. Saxton thought modern ploughs might be too heavy for the buffaloes and that rinderpest was a serious hinderance to the breeding of more suitable cattle. Mr. Rajapakse stated he had several native ploughs which he had adapted to modern requirements, at work, but could give no records of practical results. In future he would endeavour to keep these for the benefit of the Department.

The Chairman stated that he was informed there were 150 improved ploughs at work in the low-country. With regard to increase of yield, besides improved ploughing

the introduction of green manures should be encouraged *Tephrosia purpurea* (Pila) and a species of wild indigo were already used to some extent. But equally important was the introduction and distribution of improved seed, and the method of transplanting paddy instead of sowing broadcast. Improvement of seed should at first be done by selecting seed from well-grown plants with good heads and that tillered well.

Mr. Masfield asked what was being done with regard to seed selection, which had proved so beneficial, for example, with wheat and other grains in other countries. The Chairman replied that experiments were being carried out both at Gangarooa with Dr. Lock's paddy and at Maha-Illuppalama. Professor Dunstan thought such experiments well worth trying, but one type of paddy could not be evolved to suit all localities; there would have to be several types to suit the various localities and elevations.

Mr. Wilkins thought it important to increase the area under cultivation. The planters' principal interest in paddy cultivation was to obtain cheaper and better rice for their coolies, and though it could never be hoped that Ceylon alone could supply the demand, still much could be done by opening up the large areas under the tanks in the North. Many lacs of rupees were being spent on irrigation with no appreciable result.

But undoubtedly to get these areas under cultivation new immigration would have to be encouraged.

In conclusion the Chairman stated that it had been decided to ask the Revenue Officers to invite Headmen in the Provinces to place at the disposal of the Agricultural Society plots of two acres for the demonstration of improved methods in the cultivation of paddy. And he would ask the Government Agent of the Central Province if he would secure him three plots in the Central Province to be ready for the next Maha crop.

Mr. Saxton thought there would be no difficulty about this.

7. The Chairman then announced the resignation of Mr. W. Coombe, which he felt sure they all very much regretted.

8. The Committee then proceeded to inspect the exhibits specially selected for the London Exhibition, consisting of blocks and rolls of Wickham smoke-cure rubber, and cocoa of four selected varieties. There were also rolls and creped blankets of smoked rubber from New Peradeniya Estate, on view.

The Committee then proceeded to inspect the plantation visiting the show plots of green manures, examining the coffee and its pests, and the manured cocoa plots. Special interest was exhibited in the various experiments on tapping and manuring of rubber.

Finally the site for the proposed Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture was visited.

D. S. CORLETT,

Secretary,

Committee of Agricultural Experiments.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month Ending January, 1914.

DETAIL.		Instructional Staff.																									
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Tpms.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Sergt. Instructor.	Medical Officer.	Vet. Officer.	Total.
Regtl. Staff		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	1	1	1	...	...	3
A. Squadron																											
Staff	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	20	22	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	7	8	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	18	21	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	3	1	20	23	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	6	5	1	65	82	87	...	...	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron																											
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	11	14	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	11	14	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	17	20	21	...	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	8	12	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	4	1	3	47	63	68	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	6	5	1	65	82	87	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	4	1	3	47	63	68	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	...	2	2	7	...	2	10	6	4	112	147	162	1	1	1	...	...	3
Total Strength last Return	...	1	3	2	8	1	15	1	1	1	2	2	7	...	2	10	6	4	115	151	166	...	...	...	...	...	...
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sqms.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wanting to Complete	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	1	...	2	4	1	...	3	2	4	72	87	90	...	...	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	1	1	2	7	...	11	1	1	1	1	...	6	...	...	2	1	...	29	42	53	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve	...	2	4	5	14	1	25	2	2	1	3	2	13	...	2	12	7	4	141	189	215	1	1	1	...	...	...

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

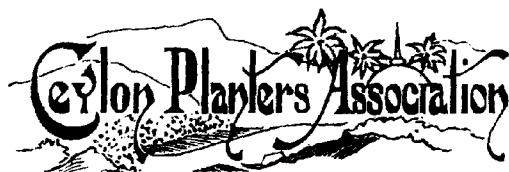
STRENGTH RETURN.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1914.

		VOLUNTEER STAFF.															
Cor	SECTION.	Lieut.-Colonel	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenant.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Sergt.-Major.	Qr. M. Sergt.	Colour-Sergeant.	Sergeant.	Lance-Sergts. & Corps.	Sergt.-Bugler.	Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.
	Staff	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	4
A.	Kelany Valley	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	2	29	35
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	10	13
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	9
B.	Kandy	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	18	22
	Matale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	13	16
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	7
C.	Rangalla	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	11	18
	Mattakelle	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	6	10
	Agrapatna	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	6	9
D.	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	8	9
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	11
E.	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	7
	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	10
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	9
F.	Haputale	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	15	17
	Badulla	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	20	25
	Uda Pussellawa	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	8	11
G.	Batticaloa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	10
	Kalmara	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	21	25
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	15
H.	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	17	18
	Morawak Korale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	12
I.	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	6
	Colombo	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	44	51
	Ambegamuwa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	10
J.	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	13	15
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	9	12
	Colombo	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	1	49	60
K.	Motor Cycle Section	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	16	19
	TOTAL STRENGTH	...	1	2	8	6	7	2	1	1	6	18	24	1	6	409	492
	Strength by last Return	...	1	2	9	6	7	2	1	1	7	20	21	1	7	406	491
L.	Increase Since	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	...
	Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Totals.	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M.	C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File	...	...	...	...	...	...	57	...	66	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Total Strength including Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	...	558	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
	Reserve Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,
Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.



Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 13th February, 1914, at 9-30 a.m.

Present.—Mr. F. H. Layard (Chairman), Planters' Association of Ceylon, Hon. Mr. William Sinclair (Rangala P.A.), N. C. Rolt (Ramboda P. A.), R. G. Coombe (Haputale P.A.), R. Huyshe-Eliot (Dikoya P. A.), N. J. Wilson Blackett (Chairman, Ramboda P.A.), George Brown (Sabaragamuwa P.A.) E. C. Villiers Hon. Secretary, Sabaragamuwa P.A.), H. Storey (Kandy), M. L. Wilkins (Chairman, Ambegamuwa P.A.), H. D. Garrick (Matale P.A.), A. M. Carver (Hon. Secretary, Kurunegala P.A.), A. S. Long Price (Chairman, Kurunegala P.A.), L. Hulme King (Kurunegala P.A.), H. A. Beachcroft (Kandy), William Gibson (Haputale P.A.), W. H. Biddulph (Udapussellawa P.A.), H. S. Cameron (Hon. Secretary, Matale P.A.), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P.A.), G. H. Masefield (Kandy), T. G. Elliott (Chairman, Badulla P.A.), H. F. Laycock (Dikoya P.A.), A. J. Percy Wills (Haputale P.A.), G. A. Coombe (visitor, Haputale), L. Bayly (Kelani Valley P.A.), J. Lochore (Chamber of Commerce, Colombo), P. R. Shand (Kandy), H. O. Hoseason (Kandy), Geo. Kent, Deaker (Passara P.A.), Hew Kennedy (Chairman, Maskeliya P.A.), Wilfred Rettie (Hon. Secretary, Badulla P.A.), Reginald Gatehouse (Badulla P.A.), A. Thorp (Chairman, Matale P.A.), C. G. Spiller (visitor), L. A. Wright (Maskeliya P.A.), Rodney Mylius (Dimbula P.A.), Geo. M. Crabbe (visitor, Ratnapura), J. Farley Elford (Kelani Valley P.A.), J. R. Barkley (Kalutara P.A.), H. G. Eccles (Chairman, Dikoya P.A.), J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman and Hon. Secretary, Pundaloya P.A.), A. P. Jukes (Maskeliya P.A.), P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary, Pussellawa P.A.), H. M. Picken (Pussellawa P.A.), G. W. Hunter Blair (Knuckles, Kellebokka and Panwila P.A.), T. Y. Wright (Chairman, K.K. and Panwila P.A.), H. J. G. Marley (visitor), G. Finch Noyes (visitor), L. C. Maudslay (Dikoya P.A.), Wallace R. Westland (Kandy), E. F. Home (Kandy Districts P.A.), C. B. Clay, (Rangala P.A.), J. G. Napier (K.K. and Panwila P.A.), W. C. Hawkes (Hewaheta P.A.), O. Balean (Ambegamuwa P.A.), A. J. Hamilton Harding (Chairman, Dimbula P.A.), R. R. Oakley (Kegalle P.A.), G. O. Trevaldwyne (Kegalle P.A.), Jackson Smale (Chairman, Kegalle P.A.), Geoffrey Kenion (Hon. Secretary, Kandy Districts P.A.), J. B. Coles (Kandy), W. H. Murray (Pussellawa P.A.), E. C. Dowson (Dolosbagie P.A.), M. H. Reeves (Chairman, Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P.A.), and John Still (Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon). 61 members and 5 visitors.

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 9th January, 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved: "That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

Members of Committee.—Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. J. C. Mitchell, A. J. Austin Dickson, H. Hopwood, Herbert Inglis, &c.

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION KANDY COMMITTEES.

Resolved:—"That the following names be submitted at this general meeting to be held at 12-30 p.m. on this day for election to the Committees of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, "Thirty Committee" and the Coast-Agency Committee."

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR 1914.

The Chairman and Hon. Secretaries of affiliated District Planters' Associations with elected representatives and members of the Kandy Committee.

NAMES OF DISTRICT CHAIRMEN, HON. SECRETARIES AND MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON, 1914.

- (1) AMBAGAMUWA.—O. Balean (Chairman), R. Senior White (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—M. L. Wilkins, S. P. Blackmore.
- (2) BADULLA.—Reg. Gatehouse (Chairman), Wilfred Rettie (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—T. G. Elliott, W. G. B. Dickson.
- (3) BATTICALOA.—Not received.
- (4) CHILAW DISTRICTS.—N. J. Martin (Chairman); O. B. M. Cheyne (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—C. E. Corea.
- (5) DIKOYA.—H. G. Eccles (Chairman), H. E. Cates (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—R. Huyshe Eliot, H. F. Laycock, L. C. Maudslay.
- (6) DIMBULA.—A. J. Hamilton Harding (Chairman), Huntley Wilkinson (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—F. W. Le Feuvre, A. A. Bowie, A. T. Sydney Smith, R. Mylius, A. L. Gibson.
- (7) DOL AND YAK.—M. H. Reeves (Chairman), Edward C. Dawson (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—Thomas Smith, A. J. Stephens.
- (8) GALLE DISTRICTS.—M. J. Alderson (Chairman), H. Scott (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—C. Northway.
- (9) HAPUTALE.—Not received.
- (10) HEWAHETA.—Walter C. Hawkes (Chairman), Hon. Secretary, Committee:—L. St. G. Carey, L. A. Ewart.
- (11) KALUTARA.—J. R. Barkley (Chairman), W. S. Neibecker (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—Herbert Inglis, W. G. Dickinson, A. J. Dawson.
- (12) KANDY DISTRICTS.—E. F. Home (Chairman), G. Kenion (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—C. C. Du Pre Moore, F. E. Henderson, J. B. Coles.
- (13) KEGALLE.—Jackson Smale (Chairman), R. R. Oakley (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—R. G. Ward Simpson

(14) **KELANI VALLEY.**—L. Bayly (Chairman), J. C. Mitchell (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—J. Farley Elford, A. M. Carmichael, P. Byrde, D. B. Williamson, W. Murray, Arthur H. Reid.

(15) **K.K. AND PANWILA.**—T. Y. Wright (Chairman), H. Hopwood (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—G. W. Hunter Blair, J. G. Napier, C. D. Hunt.

(16) **KOTMALIE.**—M. S. Milne (Chairman), R. G. Thompson (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—C. W. Bovy-Lysberg.

(17) **KURUNEGALLE.**—L. Hulme King (Chairman), A. M. Carver (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—A. Warburton Gray.

(18) **MASKELIYA.**—Not received.

(19) **MATALE.**—H. S. Cameron (Chairman), J. F. W. Brockman (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—Jas. Anderson, H. D. Garrick, A. Thorp, Gerald Abbot.

(20) **MATURATA.**—T. H. Williams (Chairman), A. N. Paine (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—C. F. S. Shaw.

(21) **MORAWAKKORALE.**—W. M. Wade Gery (Chairman and Hon. Secretary), Committee:—W. A. Elwell.

(22) **NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICTS.**—A. J. Vulum (Chairman), R. F. Megginson (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—N. W. Davies, Neill G. Campbell.

(23) **PASSARA.**—Not received.

(24) **PUNDULOYA.**—J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman), C. Owen (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—N. J. Marcel.

(25) **PUSSELLAWA.**—H. M. Picken (Chairman), P. P. J. Walker (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—D. J. Blyth, Geo. Benzie, W. H. Murray.

(26) **RAMBODA.**—N. C. Rolt (Chairman), A. F. Howie (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—Wm. de Lemos, N. J. Wilson Blackett.

(27) **RANGALA.**—J. Hall Brown (Chairman and Hon. Secretary), Committee:—W. Sinclair, H. B. T. Boucher, C. B. Clay.

(28) **SABARAGAMUWA.**—George Brown (Chairman), E. C. Villiers (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—F. J. P. Roberts, E. R. E. Geddes, P. D. G. Clarke, Albert D. Sly.

(29) **UDA PUSSELLAWA.**—C. J. Owen (Chairman), R. T. Thornton (Hon. Secretary), Committee:—E. T. C. Farr.

(30) **URUGALA.**—Not received.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. F. H. Layard, G. H. Masefield, W. S. Coombe, Gordon Pyper, snr., H. A. Beachcroft, G. C. Bliss, J. S. Patterson, P. R. Shand, J. L. Tancock, J. R. Neale, T. Gidden, W. R. Westland, L. R. Rudd, T. Hyatt, W. H. Biddulph, Martin M. Smith, A. S. Long Price, Keith Rollo, Nigel I. Lee and J. B. Coles.

"THIRTY COMMITTEE."—Messrs. W. S. Coombe, Gordon Pyper, snr., N. W. Davies, W. H. Biddulph, R. Huyshe Eliot, William Gibson, G. C. Bliss, F. H. Layard, J. Graeme Sinclair, J. B. Coles, L. St. G. Carey, Herbert Inglis, J. S. Patterson, H. F. Laycock, George Benzie, H. G. Eccles, Martin M. Smith, T. Gidden, H. D. Garrick,

T. Y. Wright, C. B. Prettejohn, R. Gatehouse and Chairman, P.A.

COAST AGENCY COMMITTEE.—Chairman of all District Planters' Associations, and Messrs. F. H. Layard, H. A. Beachcroft, W. S. Coombe, Gordon Pyper, snr., Wm. Gibson, William Sinclair, G. C. Bliss, J. S. Paterson, T. Gidden, R. G. Coombe, R. Huyshe Eliot, J. B. Coles, Wallace R. Westland, J. L. Tancock, Herbert Inglis, Martin Smith, C. A. Grant, G. H. Masefield, Neill G. Campbell, and Chairman, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Executive Committee.—Resolved:—"That Mr. H. D. Garrick do serve as member of the Executive Committee of the Planters' Benevolent Fund of Ceylon for 1914."

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.—Read the following resolution from the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association.—"That this Association views with the greatest apprehension the state of affairs existing as regards the administration of justice by the present District Judge and Police Magistrate in the Districts of Ratnapura, Palamadulla, Rakwana and Balangoda, and enclose for the consideration of the Parent Association specific instances in support of their contention, and would request the Parent Association to assist this Association with their advice in the matter before further steps are taken."

Resolved:—"That the Secretary do write to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the terms decided by the meeting."

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

The following resolution from the Proprietors' Labour Federation Committee was read:—"That the Planters' Association of Ceylon be asked to elect three of its members, who are at the same time either members of the Federation or employed upon Federated estates, to form a sub-Committee for the purpose of editing the suggestions received for the amendment of the rules. This sub-Committee to have power to add to its numbers up to five members qualified as above and to have power to make suggestions for any desirable alterations which may not have been embodied in the correspondence dealt with."

Several names were suggested and balloted for, with the result that Messrs. J. B. Coles, E. E. Megget and H. M. Picken were elected.

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT, 1913.

The annual report of the Planters' Association of Ceylon for 1913 was laid on the table and adopted.

It was resolved:—"That the sum of Rs. 1,000 allotted for the Chairman's expenses in 1912 and 1913 be raised to Rs. 1,500 for 1914."

CHAIRMAN, PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that Mr. Hew Kennedy was the only candidate.

RURAL MEMBER, LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that Messrs. Wm. Sinclair and R. Huyshe Eliot sought election to be the Planters' Association nominee as a candidate for Coun-

oil, and that each had agreed not to press his claim further than the election to be held that afternoon.

COOLY DEPOT IN COLOMBO.

The following figures showing the total number of coolies despatched from the Forwarding Agents, Ceylon Labour Commission, Colombo, to Tuticorin Agency, from January 1st to February 10th, 1914, were read:—

Serial No.	Month and Date.	Total number of Coolies.
1.	From January 8th to 10th, 1914	... 41
2.	From January 11th to 17th, 1914	... 96
3.	From January 18th to 24th, 1914	... 310
4.	From January 25th to 31st, 1914	... 374
5.	From February 1st to 7th, 1914	... 444
6.	From February 8th to 10th, 1914	... 129
Total number of coolies		... 1,394

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The following letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary was read, and it was resolved to circulate the same to all District Planters' Associations and elicit their opinions:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, January 30th, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to forward, for any remarks the Planters' Association of Ceylon may desire to make, the enclosed draft regulations which it is proposed to issue under Section 3 of Ordinance No. 5 of 1901 with a view to preventing the spread of shot-hole borer in the Island.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

(Regulations referred to.)

It shall be the duty of the person in charge of a tea-estate or tea-garden infested, or suspected to be infested, by *xyleborus formicatus* Eich. (Shot-hole borer of tea) to notify in writing to the Director of Agriculture the presence, or supposed presence, of this insect on his or her tea-estate or tea-garden.

(2) The Director of Agriculture, or person authorised by him, shall have the right of access at all reasonable times to all tea estates or tea gardens to determine whether *x. formicatus* Eich is present.

(3) A register of infested estates and gardens shall be kept by the Department of Agriculture.

(4) When the Director of Agriculture shall have determined that *xyleborus formicatus* Eich is present on any tea-estate or tea-garden he shall by a notification published in the Government "Gazette" declare such estate or garden to be in quarantine.

(5) No person, firm or corporation shall remove tea-plants or parts of tea-plants (other than leaf for manufacture or tea-seed) from an estate or garden which has been declared to be in quarantine, nor receive tea-plants or parts of tea-plants from such estate or garden, unless and until a permit has been issued therefor by the Director of Agriculture.

(6) No person, firm or corporation shall ship by or offer for shipment to any common carrier, nor shall any person, firm, corporation or common carrier transport or receive for transportation any tea-plants or parts of tea-plants (other than leaf and seed)

unless the case, box, package, crate, bale or bundle thereof shall be plainly and correctly marked to show the nature of the contents, the estate or garden where the same was grown, the name and address of the shipper, owner, or person shipping or forwarding the same and the name and address of the consignee.

RAGAMA CAMP.

Read a letter from the Hon. the Government Agent, W. P., and resolved:—"That it be printed in the "Planting Gazette."

COAST AGENCY.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Coast Agency Committee had decided to adopt the Ceylon Labour Commissioner's Budget A., at the same time withdrawing the resolution to raise the Coast Agency Cess.

It was also notified that the Coast Agency Committee had resolved that no estate be permitted to become a subscriber to the Coast Agency unless first a member of its District Planters' Association.

THE "PLANTING GAZETTE."

A member raised the question whether the editor of the "Planting Gazette" has the right to exclude any contribution on his sole responsibility.

It was resolved nem con.:—"That the editor has this right."

LABOUR ORDINANCE NO. 9 OF 1909.

Mr. T. Y. WRIGHT informed the meeting regarding a case pending against his kangany and it was resolved:—"That the Planters' Association do take this up as a test case, appointing a lawyer to watch the proceedings."

LAND PURCHASED FROM THE LAND SETTLEMENT OFFICERS.

Read the following resolution from the Badulla Planters' Association, and resolved:—"That the matter be referred to the Hon. the Rural Member, Legislative Council."

RESOLUTION FROM BADULLA P.A.

"That Government be asked not only to guarantee titles but to put the purchaser in possession of land purchased from the Land Settlement Officers."

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary, Planters Association of Ceylon.

SIXTIETH ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.

Your Committee herewith presents the Sixtieth Annual Report.

The register shows a membership of 1,106 estates and 98 private voters as compared with 1,158 and 93 respectively at the end of 1912, the apparent decrease being partly due to the grouping of small estates under a single name.

FINANCES.—The funds of the Association are in a satisfactory position and a balance of Rs. 13,165-39 is shown in the accounts.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.—The number of affiliated District Associations is now 30 as compared with 31 at the end of 1912, the reduction being caused by the amalgamation of the Balangoda Association with the Sabaragamuwa Association.

THE CEYLON ASSOCIATION IN LONDON.—Mr. Martin Leake very generously forwarded to the Association an excellent painting in oils of himself, which had been presented to him on the occasion of his Golden Wedding. This now hangs in the Ferguson Memorial Hall.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—The Association suffered a great loss in May when the Hon. Mr. Edward Rosling, Rural M.L.C., retired from the Island. It is a pleasure to record that Mr. Rosling's long and able public services have since been rewarded by the honour of a Knighthood. The Hon. Mr. William Sinclair acted as Rural Member for the remainder of the year.

"THE PLANTING GAZETTE."—In March there appeared the first number of the *Planting Gazette*, a monthly paper edited in the P. A. Office and devoted to the recording of Planting News.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

In April last Government placed a lorry on the Rangalla-Kandy road for experimental purposes. For a time this lorry did good work, but eventually it was found not suited to the roads in that district. Another lorry was put on and this was found quite satisfactory, and has always arrived up to time. Both lorries weighed, when fully loaded, 4 tons 8 cwt., but it would be well for those intending to use this method of transport to have the bodies so built as to take full loads of chests. The first lorry held 40 chests of tea, but the latter only 36 chests, or about 1 ton 14 cwt., while the lorry was capable of carrying 2 ton loads.

One of these lorries is capable of transporting all produce, rice, etc., for fully 1,800 acres, at 25 miles from the Railway Station.

During the time these lorries have been running the Government road has been in good order, so that the Government regulations allowing only three-ton lorries should be revised.

PLANTING PRODUCTS.

TEA.

The season 1913 will long be remembered for its remarkable floods, which were of an unprecedented nature in January and which recurred in October and December. Much damage was done, and transport by road and rail was temporarily disorganised.

In the mid-districts there was a remarkable uniformity in the total rainfall up to about September, although its distribution was anything but normal, there being fine spells or droughts at unusual periods. The October and December rains, however, raised the total rainfall above the average of many years past.

The Uva and Matale districts suffered from severe droughts and the usual rush of leaf, during the second quarter of the year, did not occur except over a small area. The

closing months were more normal, however, and on the whole the season has been a distinctly good one.

Tea price have been satisfactory.

A considerable area of low-country tea is being cut out, as rubber is taking possession of the soil, and a larger area is likely to follow. The dry spells, above referred to, have been favourable for weeding and a decided improvement is noticeable in this respect, though in some cases manuring programmes have been curtailed in order to concentrate labour on this work.

It is unlikely that recent tea extensions will make up for the area of tea going out under the shade of growing rubber.

The chief matters for consideration of the Planting Community are:—

- (1) Improved transport.
- (2) Cheaper rice.
- (3) Cheaper and better liquid fuel.

A commencement has been made with mechanical transport, on the whole, with satisfactory results.

The rice question is under consideration by a Special Committee.

Tortrix has by no means disappeared in the mid-districts, but its ravages were checked by the heavy rains which fell in January. Shot-hole borer is on the increase, and remedial measures are now having attention.

The Chamber of Commerce estimate of the tea crop for 1914 which your Committee adopted is 194,000,000 lbs. distributed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
To United Kingdom	112,000,000
„ Russia	20,500,000
„ Continent	2,500,000
„ America	19,000,000
„ Australia	26,000,000
„ China	8,500,000
„ Other countries	5,500,000
			<hr/> 194,000,000

COLOMBO TEA REPORT FOR 1913.

The average quality for 1913 (except for the first few weeks of the year) was generally on a higher level than that of 1912. Standout quality was exceptional, although some good invoices were offered. Uva side teas with few exceptions were generally disappointing. Nothing, however, approaching the low type of common teas, which characterised the latter half of 1912, was seen here at any time during the year.

The market opened in January with an upward tendency, but when in the middle of February, quality began to assert itself, prices rose immediately and remained firm at an average of 2 to 3 cents above 1912 to the end.

Local sales for the year sold 69,778,520 lbs. at an average of 45.84 cts. against 64,925,826 lbs. sold in 1912 at an average of 43.65 cts.

It is noticeable that Russian buying showed a considerable improvement on the previous year, and it is to be hoped that the producer will see to it—that everything in the way

is done to ensure the continuous increase of this particular trade.

GREEN TEA DURING 1913.

The future development of the green tea industry is very largely in the hands of the planters. In the case of black tea poor liquoring and badly graded tea can be turned out and sold only at a slightly lower price than good tea and no harm is done to anyone concerned. This is not so in the case of green tea, as no one wants poor green tea, and when it is shipped to consuming markets distributors have the greatest difficulty in selling it, with the result that green tea very quickly becomes a drug in the market. On the other hand there is always a demand for good tea, and if Ceylon green tea could be uniformly good it would command a high price whatever the general market conditions.

Unfortunately during the past year a good many complaints have been received from the consuming markets as to the quality of the 1913 crop, and there is a general impression on all markets that the quality of Ceylon green tea during the past few years has gradually deteriorated, the causes of complaint being the presence of fermented leaf in the infusion and stalks and twanky in the dry leaf.

It is to be hoped that during 1914, when the basis of price is one which should pay estates well, every possible care will be taken to turn out only good, pale liquoring, well graded green teas.

RUBBER.

Weather conditions, which have so great an influence on yield, have not been unfavourable. compensation for the exceptional wet weather of January having to a great extent been found in the mildness of the S.W. monsoon during the months of July and August, but the year has been remarkable for unexpected periods of dry weather and occasional exceptionally heavy falls of rain. No large areas have been opened in rubber this year nor is much further opening likely to be undertaken in the immediate future.

Tapping by bark paring is the rule, little if any "pricking" being done, except perhaps over very thin renewals which would be better left alone. The number of cuts per tree has been generally reduced to one or at the most two. Many systems of tapping have been formulated and expert opinions are still at variance as to what number of cuts, area tapped at one time, and at what intervals of time, give the better yield with greatest conservancy of bark and economy of labour. Comparisons under exactly equal conditions being almost if not quite impossible, it is doubtful if this will ever be settled to the satisfaction of all; exceptional cases prove nothing and taken generally results are much alike, it is however agreed that numbers of cuts per tree do not increase yield and involve waste of both labour and bark, and the general practice is one or at the most two cuts 22 inches apart, on a system of thirds or alternative halves every other day, thus allowing for a six years' renewal.

There still remains room for improvement in tapping knives, too much being left at present to the skill of the operators; tapping generally has, however, much improved

though too much attention cannot be paid to conservancy and renewal of bark.

Thinning out of closely-planted areas has become general and clearings are being reduced to 125 and even 100 trees per acre, it having been clearly proved that close planting not only is a check on yield and on the normal growth and development of the rubber tree, but induces canker and disease generally. Much harm was done originally in valuing properties on the number of trees planted, resulting in overcrowding and subsequent defoliation of trees coupled with short yields and poor renewal of bark; it is however, hoped that thinning out by selection with generous application of manure will in a great measure restore the affected areas in older, and prevent like damage in younger clearings though it can never produce the natural spread of foliage and development of trunk area to be seen on isolated or originally widely planted trees.

Thanks to the mycological staff at Peradeniya, knowledge of canker and disease of the rubber tree generally, and of their proper treatment has increased, and serious trouble need not now be feared from this source if care is taken and treatment applied in the early stage, except in the case of crowded areas.

Cultivation has become even more general as undoubtedly assisting bark renewal and development of the trees and thereby tending to keep up, if not increase, yield.

Cost of production has come down considerably and, with new areas coming into bearing and increased crops, this will be still further reduced. There is no doubt that rubber will eventually be put into Colombo at from 40 to 45 cents per lb. all in.

Demand for plantation rubber, though at greatly reduced prices, has been well maintained, but there is undoubtedly a call on the part of manufacturers for standardisation and uniformity, and though smoking will in some measure assist this as regards colour, standardisation of curing is essential to the well being of the industry. As a means to this end central factories have been suggested, but some clearly defined system of smoke-curing is likely to prove the better and more certain remedy for the present want of uniformity.

Many clever and practical brains are now at work on this most important subject, and the coming year will very likely produce some more satisfactory method of curing.

Market prices show a preference for Hard Para by about 1s. per pound, but it is very doubtful whether this is justified or likely to be maintained when the Plantation article has had time to prove itself.

Though prices have steadily fallen throughout the year there seems to be, at the close, a distinct tendency to recovery, forward contracts being made freely at Re. 1.75, while sellers are inclined to hold out for a further rise.

Though prices have been disappointing, the fall has done good in bringing home to all the necessity of economy in cost of production and of more careful methods of curing and there is little doubt that the industry will emerge from the present depression in a sounder position than before.

- Agriculturally the year has been a favourable one and estimates have been mostly realised.

COCOA.

The year under review has been a most disappointing one for cocoa.

Owing to the abnormally wet weather in December and January and the drought experienced through the failure of the South-West Monsoon, both the Spring and Autumn crops were very poor.

The quality of the bean was also poor with a large percentage of garblings. This was due to the dry weather during July, August and September.

As usual there was a good deal of pod and tree canker during the wet months. *Helopeltis* was not so much in evidence, but this was probably due to the small crop on the trees.

Thefts at the beginning of the year were as numerous as ever, but there has been a marked improvement since the licenses have been reduced and the dealers brought under better police supervision.

Prices were satisfactory and remained about the same as the previous season.

The crop for the year amounted to 69,081 cwts. as against 68,890 cwts. in 1912.

CARDAMOMS.

The exports for 1913 will reach 450,000 lbs. (which was the quantity estimated for the year.) This is the shortest crop for many years, and it is not expected that 1914 will show any improvement, as some of the older fields have gone out of bearing and there is no fresh land available for this product.

The weather during 1913 has not been suitable for cardamoms as very heavy rain fell during January, and again in October, which was followed by prolonged droughts that prevented the blossom from setting.

The shipments to Norway, Sweden, Turkey and United States show a marked increase over 1912.

Prices for the year have been satisfactory. In Colombo well bleached cardamoms fetched from Rs. 2.50 up to Rs. 3.50 per lb., whilst London averages were from 3s. 9d. to 5s. 1d. Best grades fetching up to 6s. 5d. per lb. Green dried cardamoms fetched in Colombo from Rs. 2.05 to Rs. 2.66 per lb.

COCONUTS.

The year was a favourable one for this product, for not only have crops been large, but record prices have been obtained. It was not expected some five years ago, that copra would ever reach over Rs. 100 per candy, as it has been done this season. Throughout the year high prices have been maintained, ranging from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 per candy. The exports show very heavy increases in shipments of copra, desiccated coconuts, and nuts in the shell; though shipments in oil went down somewhat.

It is interesting to note that two-thirds of the total shipment of copra went to Germany, while increased business was done with Russia.

Prospects are very promising in 1914 as regards crops, and judging from the fact that forward contracts for copra at Rs. 95 per candy have been made, a drop in prices is not anticipated. The industry has been happily immune from any disease throughout the year. A considerable amount of land is being opened up quietly especially by native capitalists both large and small.

FUNGOID DISEASE.

Your Committee is indebted to the Government Mycologist for the following notes on fungoid disease during 1913.

No new diseases of the principal estate products have been recorded during the year, and the known diseases appear to have given less trouble. In Hevea, both "Dieback" and "Pink Disease" have been comparatively rare, while now that the plantations are older and the jungle stumps have for the most part disappeared, very few cases of root disease have been reported. "Canker" remains the most serious disease of Hevea, but its symptoms are now generally understood and treatment is carried out as soon as the disease appears. The number of cases reported during the year 1913 was only one half that for the last six months of 1912. It is of course possible that this decrease indicates that Superintendents are now better acquainted with the disease rather than that it is actually less prevalent, but either explanation may be regarded as expressing an improvement. The leaf all which in some cases follows an attack of the canker fungus on the fruits has been determined to be caused by the same fungus. The Assistant Botanist and Mycologist is now devoting his attention to the subject of "nodules"; but we have not been able to find any confirmation evidence of the theory enunciated in Java, but these are the result of "canker."

As regards tea, attention may be directed to an article on the tarring or pruning cuts which appeared in the "Tropical Agriculturist" for December last. The adoption of this practice would prevent much of the "branch canker" which is caused simply by decay originating on the exposed wood of old branches. Additional evidence was obtained during the year of the growth of "Rosellinia" on buried prunings.

"Tephrosia Candida" has proved susceptible to the attack of two tea root diseases, viz., "Rosellinia" and "Poria Bypolaritica." This, to some extent, affects its suitability as a green manure or cover plant, though it is improbable that its use would introduce either disease. Where either of these disease is present, the "Tephrosia" will also be attacked, and will serve as an intermediary in the passage of the disease through the soil from one tea bush to the next. Whether this last point is of great importance in the case of a product so closely planted as tea is open to question.

INSECT PESTS.

Your Committee is indebted to the Government Entomologist for the following notes on insect pests during the year 1913:—

TEA 1913.

Shot-hole borer (*"Xyleborus fornicatus"*) has come in for a good deal of attention. It has been found that steps could not be taken under the Pests Ordinance of 1906 to try to arrest its spread and legislation to secure that end has been drafted. The Planters' Association has resolved that the proclamation of this pest on individual estates is desirable. The Committee of Agricultural Experiments has resolved, and the resolution has received the support of the Planters' Association, that it is desirable that Government should appoint an Entomologist specially to study this pest with a view to discovering a method of control.

Various caterpillars have been reported as doing more or less damage.

Red-borer (*"Zeuzera coffeæ"*) has been sent in frequently sometimes in the belief that it was shot hole borer.

Bark-eating borer has been sent in on several occasions. So far as the writer knows the adult of this particular caterpillar has not yet been reared.

Leaf-eating caterpillars have been rather common.

Lobster-caterpillar (*"Stamopus alternus"*) has been received on two occasions.

Red-slug (*"Heterusia cingala"*) has been destructive in several localities.

Nettle-grubs (*"Natada narasia, Thosea secta, Parasa lepida"*) seem to have attracted more attention than usual.

It ought to be considered whether arsenate of lead should not be used against these leaf-eating caterpillars.

At present in the case of a bad attack, the planter has to fall back on pruning and burning; when the tea is still a considerable time from pruning this seems to the writer rather a drastic method. Mites have come in for a fair share of attention.

A small borer that has only once before been reported from tea, and that a number of years ago, has cropped up again. It was sent in as shot-hole borer, and perhaps is widely distributed. It attacks the tea at the ground level, or even below the ground-level.

It is known as *"Xyleborus compactus"* and is considerably smaller than *"X. fornicatus."* It attacks also the twigs of coffee.

HEVEA.

This plant still remains comparatively free from insect pests.

A cerambycid beetle (*"Moechotypa verrucicollis"*) was received from the Matale district with the report that it was eating the bark of Hevea stumps.

This same species was received from the Matale District several years ago. The writer is satisfied that though it manifests a preference for dry bark, it can eat latex-bearing bark with impunity.

A look-out should be kept for it.

It is about 1 inch in length of a purlish-brown colour and has a light marking in the form of a X on the dorsum.

Black-bug (*"Saissetia nigra* or *Leconium nigrum"*) has been received on several occasions. This insect appears to

be widely dispersed as a tenant of Hevea, and is usually protected by the large red ant.

There is a disposition to neglect it, as of no importance. This attitude is, in the opinion of the writer, unfortunate. It should be destroyed at every opportunity.

COCOA.

"Helopeltis antonii" has been reported once or twice. As this is a serious pest of tea, it is a pity that a great deal of cocoa should be allowed to grow up uncared for simply to form a breeding ground for *Helopeltis*.

DADAP.

There have been frequent reports of serious defoliation of Dadap by caterpillars, chief of which are *"Orgyia postica"* and *"Taragama dorsalis,"* against such caterpillars, arsenate of lead is almost a necessity, and should be kept in stock ready for any emergency.

It is best applied as a spray at length of 4 lbs. to 100 gallons of water.

"Croton Tigilium." Reports have been received on two occasions of serious injury to this plant.

On one occasion *"Pulvinaria"* and *"Saissetia nigra"* were present, the latter encrusting the stems and no doubt the chief culprit. On the other occasion *"Saissetia nigra"* was present, and also a Noctuid caterpillar (probably *"Amyna Selenampha."*)

Ragama Camp.

The Camp Visitors report is as follows:—

"Out of evil good comes," an old saying and very true of the above Camp as it is now managed, in comparison with but a few years back when cholera broke out there in 1911.

We are pleased to say that since that terrible time there has been no slackening off, and the keen interest taken in the whole question by our late Colonial Secretary, Sir Hugh Clifford, has been well backed up since by successive Government Agents of the Western Province; with the result that we now have a permanent Camp capable of dealing with some 2,500 coolies, well-equipped and well run with everything necessary for the comfort and welfare of the coolies, as well as an overflow Camp consisting of three permanent buildings, and several temporary buildings which in comparison with a couple of years ago is kept clean and sweet, in fact so far as the coolies are concerned is as comfortable anyhow in fine weather as the permanent Camp.

With the knowledge gained at Ragama, our hope is that the Camp at Mandapam will be run in the efficient manner that Ragama has been run latterly, the credit of which is in no small degree due to the late Superintendent and the Assistant who is now in acting charge.

The objection coolies had to being made to wear Camp cloths while their own were being disinfected has been done away with, and each cooly can now leave the Camp in a new cloth, unless the superintendent of his or her estate gives instruction to the contrary.

Complaints there always will be in every quarantine station, and the Tamil likes his "grouse" as well as any

her nation on earth, but he has very little cause for complaint of the way things are managed at present.

The figures dealing with the Camp will be found below:—

THE NUMBER OF COOLIES FOR 1913.				
		Total No. of Coolies.	Tin Ticket Coolies.	Other Coolies.
January	...	4,181	3,844	337
February	...	4,625	4,261	364
March	...	5,422	4,997	425
April	...	9,714	9,005	709
May	...	16,714	15,424	1,290
June	...	17,258	16,166	1,092
July	...	14,087	13,180	957
August	...	11,789	11,009	780
September	...	11,248	10,580	668
October	...	8,317	7,853	517
November	...	5,613	5,256	357
December	...	6,003	5,509	494
Total	...	115,024	107,034	7,990

The percentage of tin ticket coolies for the 12 months was 93.05 of the total number that passed through the Camps.

COAST AGENCY.

Your Committee is now satisfied that a thoroughly competent staff is in charge of the Coast Agency in South India.

It became necessary during the year to institute proceedings in the Civil Court at Trichinopoly against the late Commissioner and a native banker for the recovery of a sum of Rs. 12,000.00. The Commission won its case against the late Commissioner, but failed to get judgment against the banker with the result that no part of the sum was recovered. It was decided to take no further action on this account.

During the year the Ceylon Labour Commissioner put forward his views on the desirability of increasing the scope of the Commission by appointing more European Supervising Officers, and this matter is still under consideration.

97,564 coolies were registered at the Agencies of the Commission during 1913, this being an increase of 3,639 over the figures of the previous year and the largest number yet dealt with since the inception of the Coast Agency. From the Superintendent of the Ragama Camp we have received the statement of estate coolies passed through that Camp which is reproduced in tabular form under the heading Ragama Camp. It will be noticed what a very large proportion of the total number of emigrants now pass through the various Agencies of our Commission.

Proprietors' Labour Federation.

In 1910 it was felt that something had to be done to try and improve Labour conditions, and to endeavour to stop the increase of debt throughout the labour force in the country, and, to effect this, the Proprietors' Labour Federation was formed. This came into existence in January, 1911, and it was hoped that sufficient support would be forthcoming to make its rules effective. The chief of these

placed a limit on advances of coolies moving from one estate to another. However, as time went on, only a little over 50 per cent. of the tea and rubber estates agreed to join, and it was felt that if something different were not proposed its objects would not be attained. In May, 1913, a fresh appeal was made to all proprietors asking them to join and subscribe to a new set of rules, and it is satisfactory to note that in response to this over 75 per cent. of the European owned tea and rubber estates in the Island joined and the new rules therefore came into operation on the 3rd October, 1913. In referring briefly to the salient points of the new rules it would perhaps be as well to make some reference to the reasons which have influenced the large majority of the proprietors in favour of Federation.

These may be summarised as follows:—

(a) The importance of securing the greatest efficiency from the coolies now in Ceylon.

(b) The necessity for safe-guarding both old and new coolies from the rapacity of dishonest kanganyes.

(c) The necessity for introducing certain measures whereby recruiting from India will be stimulated and Ceylon's good name so firmly established that we need fear no rivals.

The Federation compels every member to keep his coolies' accounts, to pay travelling expenses of all new coolies, to wipe off the debts of the dead, to pay a fee of Rs. 25 for every locally recruited cooly who within the period of three years has been brought over from the Coast, and it forbids him to pay more than the registered debt of any other locally recruited cooly. It is fully admitted that, after running for a few months several improvements and modifications of the rules may be advisable and expedient and the P.L.F. Committee have this before them. There may be, in fact there is sure to be, some difficulty to commence with, but there can be no doubt the continued efforts of so strong a combination will result in an improvement in the condition of the labour force and will promote the best interests of the planting industry.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

It may be said that no deserving case was refused assistance during the year. Children are being educated, aged or decrepit planters supported, and widows assisted; many who have been the victims of temporary embarrassment through accident or illness have been helped through their difficulties, and some have been enabled to leave Ceylon and try whether they are more suited to conditions in some other country. The finances of the fund are on a thoroughly sound basis.

Public Works Department.

Your Committee is indebted to the courtesy of the Director of Public Works for the following brief statement of the more important new works which have been carried out or were in course of construction in the planting districts during 1913.

WESTERN PROVINCE.

The construction of the Kalawellawa-Bellapitiya road. The reconstruction of the Clyde and Tebuwana bridges and of culverts on the Horana-Alutgama road.

Converting Kalutara old railway bridge into a road bridge.

The Ingiriya Hospital has been practically completed.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

The construction of the Wattagama-Ukkuwella, Watagoda-Talawakele, St. Margarets-Kirklees and Ampitiya roads has been in progress and that of the St. Andrews-Pedro road, Nuwara Eliya, has been completed.

Improvements are being carried out on the Palapatwela-Galawella road, Matale-Ratotta road, Lindula-Agras road.

The dangerous corners on 7 roads are being improved whilst on 9 roads the work of improving corners has been completed.

Passing places are being constructed on 29 roads.

New bridges are being constructed over the following streams:—Kalu Oya, Suduganga and Galmuloya.

The following new buildings have been completed:—Infectious Diseases Hospital, Dikoya; Post Office and quarters, Nawalapitiya.

Additions and improvements are in progress at Nawalapitiya, Nuwara Eliya, Dambulla and Deltota Hospitals.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.

The improvement of the Mallowapitiya road is in progress: new bridges have been erected on the Kurunegala-Dambool road and Negombo-Chilaw road while satisfactory progress has been made with the reconstruction of the Tuntota bridge.

Extensions and improvements have been carried out to the Kurunegala, Chilaw and Puttalam hospitals.

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

The construction of the Tissa Hospital has been completed and improvements to Balapitiya, Galle and Hambantota Hospitals carried out.

A commencement has been made with the construction of the additional jetty at Galle.

Surveys for the acquisition of land required for the improvements of the Hakmana-Tambulketiya road are in hand, and improvements on the following roads have been in progress:—Galle-Udugama road, Galle-Akuressa road, Matara-Deniyaya road and Liyangahatota road.

UVA PROVINCE.

The construction of the Bandarawela-Welimada road has been completed, and the extensions of the Bandarawela-Liyangahawela, Taldena, and Mupane-Pottuvil and Passara-Nakkala roads have been proceeded with.

Improvements to the Bibile-Uraniya road, Wellawaya-Pottuvil road and Diyatalawa-Roehampton road have been in hand.

The construction of passing places and widening is in progress on 14 roads.

The construction of new hospitals at Passara and Alutnuwara have been commenced and the Infectious Diseases

Hospital, Badulla, is in hand. Improvements to Medegama, Badulla and Buttala hospitals have been carried out.

PROVINCE OF SABARAGAMUWA

has been completed and that of the Woodend-Hunagawatte and Kurundupone roads have been in hand.

Improvements to the Madampe-Hambantota, Pelmadulla-Balangoda, Karawanella-Glenella, Avisawella-Ginigathena, Ratnapura-Nambapana and Pindeniya roads have been in progress.

The construction of passing places is in hand on 11 roads.

The Kendagamuwa hospital has been completed and the Undugoda hospital is nearing completion.

Improvements and additions to Kegalle, Karawanella, and Kolonna hospitals have been in hand.

The construction of a new Resthouse at Ratnapura is in progress.

Ceylon Government Railway.

Your Committee is indebted to the courtesy of the General Manager for the following report on the working of the Railway for the year ending 30th June, 1913:—

The gross receipts of the Railway for the financial year amounted to Rs. 15,753,570 giving an increase of no less than Rs. 1,639,693 over the preceding year. To this increase, coaching traffic contributed Rs. 754,214, goods and live stock Rs. 841,404 and miscellaneous Rs. 44,075. The working expenses for the year amounted to a total of Rs. 7,650,498 or an increase of Rs. 693,697.

The proportion of working expenses to gross receipts amounted to 48.6 per cent., which may be considered satisfactory.

The total tonnage of goods for the year, exclusive of railway materials, free goods and harbour stone traffic, amounted to 822,602 tons, an increase of 101,699 tons or over 14 per cent. which is a remarkably good result.

The following are figures of principal increases in goods traffic:—

Article.	Total Tonnage.	Incrs. Tons.
Rubber	... 8,956	... 4,450
Rice	... 184,804	... 23,228
Cocoa	... 3,673	... 917
Coconut produce	53,942	... 13,145
Manure	... 132,841	... 25,142
Sundry goods	... 259,153	... 30,995

The tonnage of tea (104,052 tons) was practically the same as in the previous year (166 tons decrease) but it earned some Rs. 30,000 extra owing to longer hauls. Tea and rubber packing was down 1,348 tons whilst liquid fuel (total tonnage 103,315) only gave an increase of 1,047 tons. Except for these and a small falling off in bulk petroleum there are no other decrease to record.

Presumably the falling off in tea is due partly to substitution of rubber on some estates and to the set back during the abnormal weather and landslips, etc., that occurred during the year.

As regard rice, it should be remembered that there was a falling off of 5,000 tons in 1911-12 as compared with the previous year, and last year's figures prove that this reduction was purely temporary.

Cocoa tonnage kept up fairly well and the large increase in manure is noticeable.

The figures given above prove conclusively the continued agricultural prosperity of the island and they show that the financial year under reference was exceptional.

I am glad to say that during the busy season at the end of 1912 and the beginning of 1913 there was no repetition of the congestion on the Kelani Valley line, but on the contrary the traffic on that section worked smoothly and generally speaking I think the railway gave reasonable satisfaction in the landing of traffic.

There was a considerable addition to the rolling stock during the year, over 200 new carriages and wagons and 11 new engines being put into traffic during the year.

Amongst these, the work of providing new passing sidings between Nawalapitiya and Galboda and between Watagodā and Nanu Oya, to improve the working of trains on the upper section, was commenced and the station are being completed this year.

We were very unfortunate during the year in the matter of slips and washaways. In July, 1912, there was a heavy downpour of rain, especially in the Ratnapura district and this resulted in the washing away of an embankment between Kuruwita and Ratnapura and the derailment of an engine and carriage of one of the trains and a regrettable injury to the driver Mr. E. D. Smith) which necessitated the amputation of his leg. I am glad to say that he completely recovered his health.

In January, 1913, we were visited by an extraordinary rainfall, the result of which was a serious washaways, slips and subsidences which, for magnitude, exceeded anything in the previous record of the railway.

Just before Christmas, 1912, very heavy weather in the Pattipola-Bandarawela section caused considerable damage to the railway. We patched the line up temporarily for the Christmas traffic, but before we had time to complete the permanent repairs, and before the new work had time to consolidate, another period of abnormal and prolonged rainfall set in resulting in further grievous damage to the railway. The Matale and Pattipola-Bandarawela sections suffered the most and on the former length, between Wattagama and Ukuwela, four large embankments some 100 feet long and up to 80 feet in depth were carried away whilst the cuttings were more or less filled up by overhead slips all in a single night (January 12th). In fact the section was completely wrecked. Temporary repairs were effected by provision of sleeper cribs in the gaps left by the destruction of the embankments with heavy teak timber baulks on which to carry the rails and the line was reopened for traffic on February 10th.

On the Haputale line very serious subsidences took place, notably at mileages 152½ and 154½. At the former the line kept sinking as fast as it was made up, the whole hillside below the railway being badly fissured and con-

stantly on the move. We have had to undertake very considerable remedial works at this place and even now (January, 1914) we have not been able fully to complete them.

The most serious place was at the 154½ mile on Haputale estate where, years before, we had had a great deal of trouble and had expended a large sum of money in elaborate drainage works.

An area of some 10 acres of tea land above the line and a longer area below subsided and started moving downhill carrying the railway foundation sideways as much as 20 feet in a day and destroying a 20 feet culvert and masonry watercourse and all our subsidiary drains. Nothing could be done to arrest the movement but a wire-rope-way was erected in order to enable through traffic to be resumed. Fortunately the weather moderated and the movement stopped so that we were able to resume through working without using the ropeway which, however, was left in position in case of future trouble. The damage caused to the railway by this storm is estimated at over 3 lakhs of rupees.

Since that time, amongst other exceedingly heavy works, we have been doing the only thing possible at the Haputale slip, namely carrying out an elaborate system of drainage works not only to deviate all hillside water away from the affected area but also to promptly carry away surface water from the slip itself.

I am thankful to record that, presumably as a result of this work, there was no appreciable movement of the slip during the cyclone of December, 1913.

I should like to once again record our indebtedness to the planters who helped us, personally and with their labour, during these troublous times and also to record the excellent work done by the Railway Engineering Department. Only those who saw this work in actual progress day and night or day after day in cold and unceasing rain and under the most adverse circumstances, can realize what it means to tackle such a problem as faced these Engineers and their staff in January last, and I know that those planters who saw what was going on, will bear me out in what I say.

I regret to record the fact that a serious accident occurred on the Northern Line on April 26th, 1913, when the through mixed train from Polgahawela to Kankasanturai was derailed and wrecked near Talawa.

We were unable to assign a definite reason for the derailment but formed the opinion that it was due to excessive speed.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

Your Committee is indebted to the courtesy of the Postmaster-General for the notes given below:—

NEW OFFICES 1913.

The Post Offices at Madampe and Welimada were converted into Postal and Telegraph Offices. The guarantee system is in force at both these offices.

Post Offices were opened at Waga, Gintota, Giriulla, Wattala, Maggona, and Wadduwa; and the Receiving Offices at these places closed.

Railway Receiving Offices were opened at Ganemulla and Seeduwa and village Receiving Offices at Atchuvally, Banduragoda, Bopagoda, Dodampe, Gunepana, Imbulpe, Kaleliya, Katuwellegama, Kiwula, Komari, Mahananne-riya, Migahakeula, Rambukpitiya, Tondamannar, Waha-raka, and Wewela.

MAIL SERVICES.

A value payable parcel service with the Straits Settlements under the same conditions as the service with India was introduced from the 1st January, 1914.

The contracts for the horse coach services between Negombo and Puttalam and Matara and Hambantota having expired, contracts for motor services on these lines were entered into.

The horse bullock coach services between Bandarawela and Batticaloa were discontinued from the 1st July and a motor coach service under the management of the Ceylon Government Railway was introduced.

On a representation by the Kalutara Planters' Association arrangements were made for a direct runner service from Kalutara to Matugama the mails for this Post Office having previously been sent via Neboda.

STAMPS.

A new commercial sized envelope (3½" X 6") stamped 5 cents has been issued in packets of

50 Envelopes	Rs. 2.60
10 Envelopes	Rs. 0.52

These envelopes will only be sold in complete packets of 50 or 10 envelopes.

TELEGRAPHS.

The Eastern Telegraphic Company have established a branch in Colombo and in conjunction with the Eastern Extension Australasia & China Telegraph Co., Ltd., laid a cable in the course of the year between Colombo and Penang and advantage was taken of this route with effect from the 1st July, 1913.

A cable was also laid by the Eastern Telegraph Co. Ltd., between Aden and Colombo and the work was completed on the 6th December and the cable brought into use from the 15th December.

Rates to Europe by these cables have been reduced by 5 cents per word, and various small reductions have been made in the rates to other parts of the world.

TELEPHONES.

A proviso was added to rules relating to the transmission of telegrams by telephone that in the districts where the telephone has been put up in the Post Office at the expense of private persons the charge of 15 cents may be waived, the right being reserved to reimpose it if it is found that the system of telephoned telegrams involves a charge on the public revenue.

Trunk lines were constructed to Kalutara and Galle, and exchange opened at the stations.

Junction lines were constructed by the Department between private exchanges as under:—

1. Agradatna to Lindula and Talawakelle.

2. Ragalla to Uda Pussellawa.
3. Norwood to Bogawantalawa.
4. Norwood to Maskeliya.

Eight licences to Planters' telephone exchanges were granted during the year as under:—

1. Balangoda.
2. Madulkelle.
3. Halgranoya.
4. Uda Pussellawa.
5. Gasnawa and Northlands Estates, Kegalle District.
6. Palmgarden and Kosgolla Estates, Ratnapura District.
7. Seaforth, Windsor Forest, Meenagalla, and Galle-mudena Estates, Dolosbagie District.
8. Panawatte and Clunes Estate, Yatiyantota District.

TELEPHONES IN PLANTING DISTRICTS.

The Telephone system is slowly spreading over most of the planting districts of Ceylon. This is principally due to private enterprise. Some districts are still on the old earth system of single wires. It is advisable that these should be altered to the Metallic System. Trunk lines should be erected by Government, linking up all these different systems, and over all systems iron poles should be used, gradually replacing live trees and wooden posts. The following district lines should be connected to the Government Trunk Lines:—

Kalutara, 22 lines being converted to Metallic System.
Haputale, 20 lines being converted to Metallic System.
Uda Pussellawa, 29 lines being converted to Metallic System.

Dimbula lines (Earth).
Dikoya and Bogawantalawa, 55 lines (Metallic).
Maskeliya lines (Metallic).
Madulkelle, 21 lines (Earth).
Morwak Korale, lines (Metallic).
Bandarawela lines (Earth).
Badulla (private) lines (Earth).
Aranayake lines (Metallic).
Galagedara lines (Metallic).
Rangala 16 lines (Earth).

A new direct Trunk Line from Hatton to Colombo and Haputale to Colombo is advisable as the present Nuwara Eliya—Colombo—Kandy Trunk Line will be overcrowded. The time seems to be now ripe for Government to consider seriously the question of a separate Telephone Department to take over the working of all telephone installations connected to Trunk Lines.

It is suggested that a fixed annual charge on each subscriber of say Rs. 150, and irrespective of distance might lead to simplicity in finance.

Government have opened trunk lines to Galaha, Maskeliya, Kalutara Town, Galle Town, and Neboda is allowed for in the current Budget.

VOLUNTEERING.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES AND CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

Your Committee is indebted to the courtesy of Captain G. H. Stevenson, Adjutant, C. M. R. and C. P. R. C., for the following Reports:—

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES, REPORT FOR 1913.

(1) The Strength of the Corps on 31st December, 1913, was 166 of all ranks showing a decrease of 27 on the same date of the previous year.

(2.) The number of efficient in 1913 was 141 as against 151 in the previous year; the non-efficients numbered 25, 12 of whom were on leave and six members although they made themselves efficient in drills failed to fire their Annual Course of Musketry.

(3) The average number of points obtained in the Annual Course of Musketry was 65, being a decrease of 2 points. This standard is satisfactory considering the small amount of shooting which the majority of the Corps put in during the year.

(4) The attendance of Detachment drills remains about the same and is generally poor. This will continue to be so until Troops Commanders are able to get their men more frequently together for Troop Drills, and so eliminate the Detachment Drills except for Musketry, recruits training, &c., &c.

(5) The attendance at the Annual Camp at Diyatalawa was 78 compared with 79 during the previous years. Even with these small numbers more useful instruction can be given in Camp in a few days, than can be learned from all the detachment drills throughout the year, and it is a pity so few members came to Camp.

(6) The Corps furnished a travelling escort to His Excellency the Governor on the occasion of his first landing in the Colony.

(6) The exemptions from Jury Service are 71 as compared with 75 during 1912.

(8) 2 Officers and 6 N.C.O.'s passed the prescribed examination for promotion during the year.

(9) A team from each Squadron fired the Annual Course for Machine Gun. The training of the detachment in the field is much hampered owing to the difficulty of getting a horse for transport.

(10) No. 1V Troop "A" Squadron, held a Troop Camp for three days at Diyatalawa for Troop training, and Machine Gun, Signalling, &c., when useful work was put in.

No. 3 Troop "B" Squadron also assembled in the Kelani Valley for training and Machine Gun Course.

It is to be hoped that next year all Troop Commanders will endeavour to assemble their troops for continuous training for 2 or 3 days at least once during the year.

(11) The scheme for the insurance of horses has been better supported.

(12) Colonel E. Gordon Reeves, V.D., retired from the command of the Corps on 20th March, 1913, and was succeeded by Lieut.-Colonel W. G. B. Dickson.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1913.

1. The strength of the Corps on the 31st December, 1913 was 491 of all ranks, being an increase of 52 on the previous year. The Corps reached its establishment of 500 active members on 11th October, 1913.

2. 355 members made themselves efficient during the year as compared to 338 in the preceding year. The non-efficients have increased from 101 to 136.

Of the 136 non-efficients, 26 members were on leave out of the Island and 9 were enrolled too late to admit of them doing the necessary training.

3. The average number of points obtained in the Annual Course of Musketry was 64, being the same as last year.

Marksmen increased from 143 to 156, the numbers of 2nd and 3rd Class shots have also increased, which is due to the large number of enrollments.

4. The reserve number 62, of which 36 were efficient. This is only a slight increase, and it is hoped that all reservists actually in the Island will endeavour to make themselves efficient during next year.

5. The attendance at the annual Camp of Diyatalawa was 183 as compared with 145 in 1912, and 162 in Colombo in 1911. This is satisfactory, but the number ought to be still further increased as battalion training is hard to make realistic with only a skeleton battalion.

6. The attendance at drills during the year, show an improvement, the average being 28 against 21 in 1912.

7. Two company camps were held during the year, one at Nuwara Eliya "C" and "D" Companies and one at Kondesalla "B" Company. The attendance being fairly good.

It is hoped that all company commanders will endeavour to arrange week-end camps for their men.

8. The exemption from jury service number 160 as compared with 111 in 1912.

9. 145 members were enrolled during the year, 9 members rejoined the Corps and three were transferred from other Corps. 9 members were transferred to the C.M.R. Two members were given commissions in the C.L.I. and one a commission in the C.A.V.

Great credit must be given to all Officers, Detachment Commanders and individual members who assisted in bringing into the Corps during the year such a satisfactory number as 154 enrolments.

10. 8 Officers and 8 Non-commissioned Officers passed the prescribed examination for promotion.

11. Three companies ("B," "D" and "H") had teams trained in Machine Gun and fired the course. A Regimental team composed of members from all companies were trained in Camp and fired several Field Practices.

The Corps furnished a Guard of Honour to His Excellency the Governor on his first arrival in Kandy. The Corps was also inspected by His Excellency the Governor in Kandy on the 10th December, 1913.

Obituary.

CEYLON NECROLOGY FOR 1913.

Since last report the following names have been included in the planting death-roll, and are regrettably recorded by your Committee:—

Baines, J. B.	Kindersley, E. C.
Barton, H. W.	Laing, Charles
Brown, E. E. Meredith	Lang, G. E.
Carey, J. E.	MacGregor, W.
Coggins, A. H.	MacGuffie, Thos.
Cookson, C. L. C.	Mackenzie, P. M.
Dawkins, R. M.	Mackie, J. P.
Day, H. J.	Mackie, W. S.
Ferguson, D.	Nicol, E.
Ferguson, John	Philby, H. M.
Crimston, E.	Pole, John
Hammond, A.	Roe, A. H.
Hayes, C. P.	Scott, E.
Inray, A. J.	Vizard, F. H. M.
Ingles, R. S.	Westland, James
Jenkyns, B. H.	Wiggin, E. R.

Young, E.

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON, BALANCE SHEET.

31st DECEMBER, 1913.	Rs.	cts.
LIABILITIES.		
Working Capital—		
Funds of the Planters' Association ...	13,165	39
Ceylon Contingent Monument—		
In hand at 31st December, 1913 ...	210	20
Anti-Tea-Duty League—		
In hand at 31st December, 1913 ...	284	47
Alex. Wardrop Memorial—		
Balance in hand at 31st December, 1913 ...	7	44
"Planting Gazette" Account—		
Balance in hand at 31st December, 1913...	117	75
Sir Edward Rosling Presentation Fund—		
Balance in hand at 31st December, 1913	1,211	30
	Rs.	14,996 55
ASSETS.		
Cash—		
At Bank of Madras, Colombo ...	13,731	67
At National Bank, Kandy, Rs. 1,067 51		
In Secretary's hands Rs. 86 87		
		1,103 88
Stock of Maps and Village Statistics ...	161	00
	Rs.	14,996 55

Audited and found correct

FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & Co., Chartered Accountants.
JOHN STILL,

Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.
Kandy, 10th February, 1914.

ALEXANDER WARDROP MEMORIAL FUND ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1913.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	cts.
By balance in hand to 31st December, 1912 ...	812	50
SUBSCRIPTION ACCOUNT.		
To sundry subscriptions received ...	3,005	00
Total ...	3,817	50

EXPENDITURE.

MEMORIAL CLOCK.

To amount remitted Sir Stanley Bois o/a Memorial Clock ...	£130 0 0	1,950 00
Do. ...	15 1 9	225 00
		Rs. cts.
		2,175 00
	£145 1 9	

CHARGES.

To Bois Bros. & Co. o/a shipping charges ...	56	15
" Ceylon Wharfage Co., Ltd., Custom duty, landing charges, &c. ...	255	11
" caretaker's salary, ½ October, November, and December at 10s. ...	25	00
" Walker, Sons & Co., Ltd., for erection of Memorial clock ...	798	80
By balance ...	7	44
		3,317 50

Audited and found correct.

FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & Co., Chartered Accountants.
JOHN STILL,

Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.
Colombo, 10th February, 1914.

STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

Dr.	RECEIPTS.	Rs.	cts.
To balance in hand at 31st December, 1912—			
As per last account ...		8,492	80
To subscriptions—			
On account of year 1912	270	00	
Do. Do. 1913	15,050	00	
Do. Do. 1914	37	50	
Excess subscription	12	50	
		15,370	00
To interest—			
On bank account ...		174	94
To votes for 1913—			
Coast Agency ...	6,215	28	
Planters' Benevolent Fund ...	1,553	82	
Thirty Committee ...	776	91	
		8,546	01
		32,583	75

CR.	PAYMENTS.	Rs.	cts.
By advertising meetings, &c. ...		689	59
By printing ...		721	50
By Books and stationery ...		957	26
By Secretary's remuneration ...		4,500	00
By Chairman's expenses ...		1,000	00
By salaries of clerks, peons and cooly ...		4,046	00
By postage ...		1,877	02
By Auditors' fee for 1912 accounts ...		375	00
By Victoria Commemoration Buildings—			
Repairs and up-keep ...	Rs. 219	46	
Insurance ...	62	50	
Municipal rates ...	240	00	
Conservancy and lighting ...	131	65	
Cooly wages ...	2	25	

	Rs.	cts.
By Victoria Gardens up-keep ...	655	86
By Committee meeting teas, &c. ...	3	50
By Ceylon Association in London—Annual contribution, £100 ...	118	60
By year book, 1912 ...	1,488	37
By E. E. Green; testimonial account ...	984	06
By sundry expenses ...	10	00
By balance in hand at 31st December, 1913, as per balance sheet ...	1,996	61
	13,165	39
	32,583	75

Audited and found correct.

FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & Co., Chartered Accountants.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Colombo, 10th February, 1914.

PLANTING GAZETTE.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, MARCH TO 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

Receipts.	Rs.	cts.
Advertising account—		
To advertising in "Planting Gazette" ...	4,686	79
Less refunded to advertiser ...	20	00
	4,666	79
Subscriptions account—		
To subscriptions to the "Planting Gazette" for one year ...	128	25
To sundry sale of copies ...	3	50
	4,798	54

Printing accounts—

To Times of Ceylon Co., Ltd.	Rs.	cts.
Payments.		
Printing and delivering March Gazette ...	546	47
Do. April do. ...	542	62
Do. May do. ...	718	80
Do. June do. ...	402	90
Do. July do. ...	398	45
Do. August do. ...	530	05
Do. Sept. do. ...	492	15
Do. October do. ...	439	65
Do. Nov. do. ...	609	70
Balance at 31st December, 1913 ...	117	75
	4,798	54

Audited and found correct.

FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & Co., Chartered Accountants.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Colombo, 10th February, 1914.

THE THIRTY COMMITTEE.

ACCOUNTS OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS IN CEYLON DURING 12 MONTHS ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

Receipts.	Rs.	cts.
To balance in hand at 31st December, 1912.—		
As per last account ...	88,457	13
Interest—		
On fixed deposit to 31st December, 1913 ...	3,200	00
On current account to 31st December, 1913 ...	231	57
	8,431	57

	Rs.	cts.
TO INTERNATIONAL RUBBER EXHIBITION, NEW YORK.	91,838	70
Refund by the Chamber of Commerce being unexpended balance of amount voted in 1912 ...	211	43
	92,100	13

VOTE TO PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Payments.	Rs.	cts.
Vote being 1/25 of expenditure o/s auditors, postage and petties, printing stationery, etc. ...	776	91
Charges—		
Stamp to draft ...	05	
Balance in hand at 31st December, 1913.—		
Fixed deposit, National Bank, Colombo ...	80,000	00
Current account, National Bank ...	11,323	17
	91,823	17
	92,100	13

Audited and found correct.

FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & Co., Chartered Accountants.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary, "Thirty Committee."

Colombo, 10th February, 1914.



KOTMALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the tenth Annual General Meeting held at the Kotmale Sports Club pavilion on Thursday, January 15th, 1914, at 2-30 p.m. :—

Present:—Messrs. A. J. A. Dickson, Chairman (Katahoola), C. W. Bovy Lysberg (Queensberry), C. Bain (Oonoo galoya), J. S. Richardson, Hon. Secretary, (Tyspane), Messrs. R. C. Roddam, A. Cartwright, A. Hall (visitors), and Mr. R. G. Thompson (Hangran Oya.)

Notice calling the meeting was read. Minutes of last general meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Police Magistrate of Gampola intimating that from March 1st the Police Court at Gampola will sit on Wednesdays and at Nawalapitiya on Fridays.

Read letter from A.G.A., Nuwara Eliya, re Agri-Horticultural and Horse Show to be held in Nuwara Eliya during 1914. Subscription list laid on the table.

Read letter from Secretary, Planters' Association, Kandy, re 1914 estimate of crop. It was intimated by the Hon. Secretary that figures were not available.

DELAYED MAILS.

It was proposed from the Chair:—"That the P.M.G. be asked to inform all outstation post offices when mails are

delayed and when the mails may be expected." Speaking to his resolution, the Chairman said that considerable inconvenience was caused by tappal coolies being kept waiting the greater part of the day for mails and often returning with the information that mails had not arrived.—Carried.

Resolved that the matter be placed in the hands of the Secretary, Planters' Association, Kandy, which the Hon. Secretary undertook to do.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER.

Mr. J. S. RICHARDSON proposed:—"That greater consideration be shown to the district of Kotmale when the appointment of D.M.O. is made."

After discussion in which it appeared that residents feel themselves aggrieved at the manner they are treated by the P. C. M. O. The Chairman, Kandy, undertook to interview the P. C. M. O. and would inform the Association of the result.

The HON. SECRETARY then read the tenth annual report of the Kotmale P.A.:—

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting the tenth annual report of the Kotmale P.A. for the year ending December 31st, 1913.

MEMBERSHIP.—The Association is represented by 17 estate votes and one private vote—the same as in the preceding year.

ATTENDANCE.—Four general meetings and two Committee meetings were held during the year. The average attendance at general meetings was 8. Your Committee would like to see these meetings better attended and look for an improvement in the future. It is to be regretted too that members of the Committee do not see their way to attend Committee meetings, their absence making the transaction of business difficult.

WEATHER.—In last year's annual report the weather was pronounced to have been unusually wet, but it can safely be said that 1913 has eclipsed many of its predecessors. The damage caused by the excessive rainfall has been considerable. The year's rainfall has exceeded the annual average of many years past by 30 to 40 inches.

CROPS.—Tea is the principal product in cultivation in the district. The output in many cases has been adversely influenced by the excessive wet and cold weather. Prices have ruled at a fair average for the district and have benefited in sympathy with the rise of the market.

PESTS.—No serious onslaught by shot-hole borer has been apparent, and the district generally has been remarkably free of pests with the exception of isolated cases of tortrix.

WEEDS.—It is to be regretted that the spread of oxalis is extending throughout the district, though every effort is being made to keep it within bounds. Weeding generally has been an expensive item of expenditure the weather being conducive to their active and vigorous growth.

CULTIVATION.—In general with other tea districts Kotmale receives systematic and scientific attention tending to high cultivation which has greatly improved the general aspect of tea in the district, both agriculturally and financially.

LABOUR.—Towards the close of the year under review the new rules of the P.L.F. have come into operation with the object of putting an end to increasing advances.

RICE.—The cost of rice continues at a very high figure entailing an annual loss of many thousands of rupees. It is hoped that the special Committee appointed by the Ceylon P. A. will devote all their energies to the discovery of a remedy or means for buyers to procure rice at a more reasonable rate.

HEALTH generally has been good. There have been no epidemics of infectious diseases. Signs of close attention to the health and comfort of the labour force are visible on all sides.

MEDICAL.—Your Committee present to you the report on the Nawalapitiya Hospital and Kotmale dispensary as submitted by the respective visitors.

REPORT ON NAWALAPITIYA HOSPITAL, 1913.—I have today visited the Nawalapitiya hospital on behalf of the Kotmale P.A. Dr. Peiris was in charge at the time. The wards, bath rooms and lavatories were all clean and in good order. Food and currys were plentiful and of good qualities. The surroundings and grounds were quite clean, considering the building operations in progress. There were 76 patients in the hospital, 45 males and 31 females, there being just sufficient room for them all. At the date of my first visit, June 27th, there were 45 males and 49 females. The wards were considerably overcrowded, necessitating the patients sleeping in the verandah.

On my visit on October 24th there were 35 males and 23 females in the hospital. There were no complaints from the patients, who have always appeared to be content and well-cared for, reflecting credit on Dr. Peiris and his staff, who labour under disadvantages. The building of the new wards have made better progress, there being more labour employed. The walls of the two new wards are half constructed and all the window and door frames were fixed at date of my last visit. Only two masons were working. The building might easily have been completed long before now. A new site has been chosen for the D.M.O.'s new bungalow, which will be commenced shortly.

D. C. MORTIMER,
Hospital Visitor.

22nd December, 1913.

REPORT ON KOTMALE DISPENSARY.—During the year there were three D.M.O.'s in charge of the Kotmale Dispensary!

The surgery has been kept clean and tidy and is in good order. The D.M.O.'s bungalow and outhouses require some attention, as leaks are visible and should be repaired. A good stone drain round the Assistant's quarter is necessary.

There has always been a good stock of drugs kept. We would suggest that there should always be one or other—the D.M.O. or his Assistant—in attendance. Both should never be away together as was the case on one of our visits.

R. E. MARTIN and J. S. RICHARDSON,
Visitors.

22nd December, 1913.

During the year Dr. H. Silva, who was stationed in Kotmale for seven years, left for Negombo, and your Association regrets his departure. As regards Nawalapitiya hospital the feelings of this Association have been strongly voiced at all general meetings during the year, when bitter dissatisfaction has been expressed at the dilatory manner in which the extensions and improvements to the hospital are progressing. Letters written to the authorities with regard to this public work have met with the usual stereotyped official acknowledgment.

MINOR ROADS have received the usual attention, and the best has been done with the resources at our disposal.

MAIN ROADS.—The state of the main road has come in for strong adverse criticism during the year. The roads have received particularly little attention, though now—better late than never—a hurried effort is being made to get "something accomplished something done." The roadside drains, however, remain neglected, and much irritation is caused to estates by road coolies throwing weeds, etc., removed from roadsides into the tea. The condition of our road points to absolute lack of system and apathy on the part of the P.W.D. For a short time traffic was held up owing to a slip which took place at Bowhill in the vicinity of the bridge which was carried away in 1906. It appears to your Committee that the extent of the roads under the charge of the D.E. is

more than one man can possibly control, and we trust that Kotmale will not be forgotten when the staff of the P.W.D. is increased.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.—This public department has worked efficiently.

TELEPHONES.—From figures procured it does not lie within the means of the district to instal a telephone system until the cost is considerably cheapened. However beneficial a telephone service would be to Kotmale, the residents will have to wait.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—This deserving organisation meets with continued support in the district.

STRAY CATTLE continue to frequent the public roads in search of a living.

TRANSPORT.—Occasional outbreaks of rinderpest have fortunately not interfered with the transport of goods into and out of the district.

VOLUNTEERING.—At one time Kotmale strongly represented the auxiliary forces but now has declined to a most regrettable extent. Your Committee consider it is "up to" the young men in the district to join either the C.M.R. or C.P.R.C.

FINANCE.—The accounts for the year have been balanced and duly audited, and show the sum of Rs. 202.21 standing to the credit of your Association compared with Rs. 203.62 last year.

GENERAL.—Your Committee regret the departure of Mr. F. S. Elson from the district. He assumed duties as your Hon. Secretary at the beginning of the year, and it was hoped so keen a member would have remained with us for some time to carry on the good work for which he had great aptitude.

A. J. AUSTIN DICKSON,
Chairman.

J. S. RICHARDSON,
Hon. Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, made some observations thereon, especially as regards attendance at general meetings.

Mr. THOMPSON, supported by Mr. RICHARDSON, spoke strongly on the lack of the volunteering spirit shown in the district, deprecating the apathy evinced.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

Mr. Dickson then vacated the chair, Mr. Lysberg being voted to act *pro tem*. In a brief speech Mr. Lysberg warmly eulogised the work carried through during the past year under the guidance of Mr. Dickson and proposed a cordial vote of thanks, to which Mr. Dickson suitably replied.

The following office-bearers for 1914 were then elected:—

CHAIRMAN.—Mr. M. S. Milne.

HON. SECRETARY.—Mr. R. G. Thompson.

AUDITOR.—Mr. C. W. Bovy Lysberg.

KANDY MEMBER.—Mr. C. W. Bovy Lysberg.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. C. W. Bovy Lysberg.

HOSPITAL VISITORS (Nawalapitiya).—Messrs. Milne and Mortimer; (Kotmale) Messrs. Carmichael and Martin.

PLANT PEST BOARD AND DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.—Mr. M. S. Milne.

S.P.C.A.—Mr. G. Mitchell.

LOCAL COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Lysberg, Richardson, Martin, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

A vote of thanks was duly passed to Mr. Mitchell for

the trouble he had taken on behalf of the S.P.C.A. and to Hospital visitors and other office-bearers during 1913.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. Lysberg for conducting the concluding business of the meeting.

J. S. RICHARDSON,
Hon. Secretary (*pro tem*.)

DIKOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

There was a large attendance of members at the annual general meeting of the Dikoya Planters' Association, which was held at the Norwood Club, on Thursday afternoon. The chair was taken by Mr. H. G. Eccles (Chairman), and others also present were Dr. A. B. Milton and Messrs. R. D. Kershaw, H. B. Daniell, M. L. Wilkins, H. F. Laycock, R. K. Clark, L. C. Maudslay, J. W. M. Playfair, D. G. Brebner, C. K. Krikenbeck, E. H. B. Lorrish, G. F. Sandford, A. D. Speirs, R. F. Christie, H. C. Cowell, G. H. Sparkes, J. D. Forbes, V. L. Cameron, C. W. Jones, H. Wallace, G. C. Traill, and J. H. Armitage (Hon. Secretary.)

The accounts for the past year were passed round the table for inspection, the CHAIRMAN remarking that there was nothing which called for special comment. The accounts were passed.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The thirty-ninth annual report was then read by the Hon. Secretary as follows:—

MEMBERSHIP.—Estates 71 and 3 private voters: *Bon Accord* estate has resigned.

MEETINGS.—Four Committee and three general meetings were held.

ACREAGE.—Total acreage in tea, 28,790 acres; acreage tea in bearing 27,112 acres; estimated crop for 1914, 14,461,600 lbs.; average yield per acre, 538 lbs.

THE GOVERNOR.—Their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Chalmers graciously accepted an invitation from this Association to pay an unofficial visit to the district, and expressed their pleasure at the warm welcome they received from members and their friends.

CHURCH AND MEDICAL AFFAIRS.—Schemes for improving the financial positions of the Stipend Fund for a resident Chaplain and towards retaining the services of a European doctor have been circulated. It is hoped that satisfactory solutions may be forthcoming at no distant date.

HOSPITAL.—Excellent reports continue to be received from the visitor as to cleanliness and general efficiency. One matter requiring attention is the difficulty frequently experienced in recording telephone messages at the hospital office.

C. N. A.—This Institution which has been well supported by our assistant is now on a much more satisfactory financial footing, the balance for 1913 being on the right side of the balance sheet. The new nurses' quarters have been completed and a commencement has been made with the final part of the programme—the construction of the medical wards.

ARRACK TAVERNS.—Your Committee strenuously opposed the policy of Government in opening taverns at Norwood and Glentilt in addition to those in existence at Hatton and Kotiyagalla, as being highly unnecessary and inimical to the best interests of the coolie population. The action of Government in forcing these establishments indiscriminately in the planting districts, in direct opposition to the wishes and advice of those in control of labour has

received much criticism. Your Committee are unable to report that the institution of the extra taverns has caused any reduction in the illicit sale of liquor.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.—Your Committee are able to repeat the remarks made under this heading in their last report that the cart roads of the District have been maintained in an improved condition. The Chief Engineering works during the year have been the deviation of the road, and the preparation for building a new iron bridge at Wanarajah. It was intimated to your Association that these important works would be completed before the close of 1913. These hopes have not been fulfilled, and the progress towards completion appears unsatisfactory. Your Committee wish to record their appreciation of the District Engineer's organization, which has prevented any interruption of through traffic over the old bridge and road during building operations. This is more commendable when the rocky feature of the land is taken into consideration, and the work has been carried on during a season of exceptional rainfalls. It is with pleasure your Committee notice that Government are alive to the urgency of preparing the cart roads for the transport of the future, by providing passing places and by rounding off dangerous corners. The local Committee of all branch roads have received estimates for improvements for these purposes. The District Road Committee have undertaken the necessary repairs to the Osborne bridge. The Warleigh bridge was put into thorough order during 1912 and the expenses borne proportionately between the District Road Committee with the Maskeliya and Dikoya Associations. It is with regret that your Committee bring to your notice that support from the neighbouring estates did not realise expectations, so the finances of the Association have suffered in consequence. During the year under review the bridge was subjected to heavy floods on two occasions and has been reported on as unsound.

TRANSPORT.—The question of mechanical transport has been before your Committee in conjunction with the Maskeliya P. A. The fact of the Wanarajah bridge being built has prevented any system of lorries being placed on the roads.

LABOUR.—This is, perhaps, in a rather more settled state throughout the district—there has been less movement of gangs of coolies, which may possibly be attributed to the effects of the Proprietors' Labour Federation the new rules of which came into force in October. It is satisfactory to note that this Federation has been well supported, 85 per cent. of the acreage having come in. Coast recruiting has been extensively carried out with more or less satisfactory results, proving that there is still a good deal of available labour to be tapped in the old districts at the Coast. Labour generally cannot be styled as short, although undoubtedly a good many estates could do with more coolies. This Committee would emphasise the importance of recruiting from the Coast as against local recruiting.

HATTON RAILWAY STATION.—The General Manager of the C. G. R. has forwarded to this Association a plan which shows certain improvements submitted to the Government for approval in connection with the new works for the next financial year. These improvements consist of a new cooly shelter, and superior waiting room accommodation for ladies and gentlemen. Under a separate estimate provision is made for alterations to the refreshment room. The frequent congestion of goods at the sheds proved at times most disconcerting to the community in general, long delays being entailed in the delivery of goods. As this report is being written the station bears signs of the greatest congestion seen for years. The goods sheds are full to overflowing. Many tons of manure, tea-shoots, timber, &c., are lying out in the open exposed to the sun and threatening showers. The attention of the G. M. might be drawn to the insufficient number of labourers employed by the contractor for the handling of goods, who relies, not always successfully, on borrowing labour from outside sources on the approach of any extra rush of work. A decided improvement has been noticed of late in the cleanliness of the station, as also in regulating the movement of the 3rd class passengers, thereby lessening the hustling of 1st & 2nd ticket-holders. The refreshment room continues to give great dissatisfaction. The attention of the traffic manager should be

called to the general dirtiness of the room and servants. It is hoped that better supervision will be bestowed on the caterer and staff when the suggested building operations are completed. The installation of Kitson lights on the platform has received much appreciation.

S.P.C.A.—The Hon. Agent reports: "About 60 more cases were taken to Court than during 1912. There is a great improvement in the condition of the bulls in the district and we are taking action for much slighter offences than previously. Coach horses are in very fair condition considering the heavy strain up to Bogawantalawa and Maskeliya. Several gentlemen have kindly sent me numbers of carts where they have seen animals unfit for work and in all cases action has been taken with success. I would ask everyone to inspect carts when they come to their factories for tea, and insist on the contractor having his bulls in decent condition. In most cases it is not the fault of the driver but the owner who deliberately sends out animals to work in an unfit state. In my annual report to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer I reported one owner who must have lost a considerable sum in fines during the year."

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.—The Superintendent of Telephones writes as follows:—Since the last report there are now 50 connections; Norwood exchange 26 and Bogawantalawa exchange 24. The Government have erected Trunk lines between the following exchanges, Norwood-Bogawantalawa, Norwood-Maskeliya and Norwood-Hatton, the latter connecting up the 3 exchanges with the Government. Colombo-Nuwara Eliya trunk line enabling subscribers to speak to Nuwara Eliya, Kandy, Galaha, Colombo, Kalutara and Galle. A telephone has been placed in the Norwood Post Office for the use of subscribers who are connected up with the Norwood exchange for phoning telegrams. A telephone has also been installed in Dr. VanRooyen's bungalow connecting up the hospital and enabling subscribers to speak direct to the Doctor. There are about 20 estates in Dikoya and Bogawantalawa who have not as yet joined, but it is hoped that they will come in later on.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

In moving the adoption of the report, the CHAIRMAN (Mr. H. G. Eccles) said: I do not propose to detain you any length of time for the purpose of explanations. The report refers to the principal items of interest in the district with which you are well acquainted. Our membership has fallen off by one estate and our balance is Rs. 109.48 less than last year. This has been caused by the loss entailed over the repairs to the Warleigh Bridge in 1912, but may possibly be recoverable. There has been rather more expenditure on postages and printing due to the church and medical circulars sent out to the members during the year. The meetings, both General and Committee, have been well attended, and I have to thank members for their help. The question of establishing arrack taverns at Norwood and Glentilt caused a good deal of opposition from the proprietary interest, the association also being strongly opposed, not only to the suggestion but to the methods of carrying it through. I have figures quoted by the Government Agent as to the quantity of arrack consumed during the last six months of 1912 and the same period of 1913 after the opening of the new taverns at Norwood, Glentilt and Handenuish. I presume these were sent in to prove the soundness of the Government's policy of opening more taverns to reduce the consumption. The figures certainly point to a decrease of 1,700 gallons, but are not quite reliable, inasmuch as such a short time is taken, and in face of the fact that in 1912 a cooly could remove a far larger quantity of arrack than he is now allowed to. What con-

cerns us more is whether proper supervision is given by inspectors to prevent illicit sales. During the year under review it was considered advisable to bring the

CHAPLAINCY AND MEDICAL SCHEMES

under the auspices of the Planters' Association. A scheme was laid before you for the rebuilding of the Vicarage and for ensuring more general support to the Stipend Fund. It has been a great disappointment to the sub-Committee, as well as to everybody else, that both suggestions have failed to attract sufficient promises. The sub-Committee have, therefore, no alternative at present but to withdraw the proposal for the Rebuilding of the Vicarage and revert to a collection of voluntary subscriptions towards the Stipend. After deep consideration we see that the financial position of the Stipend Fund prevents any probability at present of employing a resident Chaplain and for this reason we have been compelled to inform our Chaplain that we have no money to meet his salary and that we cannot re-employ him after his furlough expires. We have to thank the Bishop of Colombo and his Clergy for arranging for services in the district churches and we hope that these may be continued at no great inconvenience until we can induce both estates and superintendents to contribute more generously to the funds. I would take this opportunity of expressing the thanks of all Dikoya church-goers to Mrs. R. K. Clark for the efficient way she has presided so regularly at the organ. (Applause.) In regard to retaining

THE SERVICES OF A EUROPEAN DOCTOR

I feel I am expressing the regret of all members of this Association at the very serious illness of Dr. Stedman, but we trust he may be restored quickly to good health. (Applause.) Some months ago he decided to give up his practice, and certain negotiations are now in progress for joining hands with Dimbula in a joint Medical Scheme for these districts. The only other point I have to touch upon before vacating the chair refers to the nomination of a Rural Member for Council. A respected member of this Association, Mr. Huyshe Eliot, has consented to stand, and I need hardly draw your attention to his good qualities, as he is well-known to everyone. I feel sure that he would prove a most suitable member of Council and be acceptable to the whole Planting Community. Those who are not able to attend the meeting at Kandy—I would advise all who can to do so as it will be a most interesting meeting—should send in their proxies in favour of the candidate they prefer and it is well to observe that these are correctly filled in and that your subscriptions have been paid. With thanks to the various Committees and to the Hon. Secretary for their invaluable aid I move the adoption of the report."

"The report was carried unanimously.

HOSPITAL VISITOR'S REPORT.

The Hospital Visitor (Mr. R. D. Kershaw) reported having visited the Glencairn Hospital on December 18th and January 13th. His statement was read by the Honorary Secretary as follows:—

The number of patients on the dates of my visit was:—December 18th, 43 males, 28 females, total 71. January 13th, 1914, 47 males, 25 females, total 72. Wards, latrines and bathroom—very clean. Staff—sufficient on date of my visit. Complaints—None. Food—satisfactory. Grounds—in good order.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the thanks of the Association were due to Mr. Kershaw for his report and the report was then adopted.

MR. ECCLES RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

The next business being the election of officers for the year Mr. Eccles temporarily vacated the chair, which was taken by Mr. H. F. Laycock. Mr. Laycock thanked the members for voting him to the chair for a few minutes, and said his first pleasant duty was to propose a very hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman (Mr. Eccles.) They all knew what a strenuous year the unlucky 1913 had been for the Planting Community, and clearly recognised the excellent work Mr. Eccles had done. He did not wish to detain the meeting by dilating any further upon what their retiring Chairman had done because all of them knew already.

Mr. H. B. DANIELL then proposed that Mr. H. G. Eccles again be asked to act as their Chairman, and this was seconded by Mr. WILKINS and carried unanimously.

Mr. ECCLES then took the chair once more amid applause, and said: I thank you, gentlemen, very much for the honour you have done me in re-electing me as your Chairman for 1914. Last year many schemes were started, but not much was carried through. This year I hope we should be more successful, that our results will be more satisfactory and that more will be accomplished.

MR. H. E. CATES ELECTED HON. SECRETARY.

Their next business, said the CHAIRMAN, was to elect an Hon. Secretary. It would have given him and the Association generally very much pleasure if it had been possible for Mr. Armitage to stand as Hon. Secretary again, but he understood that this was impossible.

Mr. ARMITAGE: I am very sorry I cannot possibly accept the office again, gentlemen. I am working day and night in my office at present.

A Voice: The Federation? (Laughter.)

Mr. ARMITAGE: That is it.

Mr. H. F. LAYCOCK then proposed and Mr. J. W. M. PLAYFAIR seconded the appointment of Mr. H. E. Cates, to the vacant post and this was carried unanimously. It was mentioned that Mr. Cates was returning to the island in a week or a fortnight, and the Chairman thought he would accept the post.

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The HON. SECRETARY said a letter had been received from Mr. C. G. Spiller resigning his membership of the P.A. as he was leaving the District. Mr. A. D. Spiers, also a member of the General Committee, stated that he was leaving the District in another fortnight. Mr. G. F. Sandford and Mr. D. G. Brebner were appointed to the

vacancies thus caused upon the General Committee. The Committee is now constituted as follows:—Messrs. H. G. Eccles, G. O. LeMotte, A. R. Milton, P. H. Aste, L. C. Maudslay, R. F. Christie, A. C. Traill, J. H. Armitage, C. W. Jones, J. D. Forbes, G. H. Sparkes, R. Huyshe Eliot, H. F. Laycock, G. F. Clarke, R. K. Clark, J. R. Neale, R. D. Kershaw, T. Gidden, H. B. Daniell, F. J. Dunn, M. Elton Lane, E. Massy, M. H. Grant Peterkin, A. C. T. Meyer, R. G. F. Alston and M. L. Wilkins.

The following were appointed to represent the D.P.A. on the Kandy Committee.—The Chairman, the Hon. Secretary, and Messrs. Huyshe Eliot, H. F. Laycock, and L. C. Maudslay.

Representative on the Planters' Benevolent Fund Committee.—Mr. H. F. Laycock.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that it did not seem usual to appoint an auditor at the annual meeting, but now the Association was likely to have far larger sums to handle—what with Medical and Stipend Funds—he thought it was advisable that an auditor should be appointed.

On the motion of Mr. KERSHAW, seconded by Mr. Milton, Mr. C. W. Jones was unanimously chosen auditor.

MINOR ROAD GRANTS.

It was reported that the following Minor Road Grants had been applied for:—Bogawantalawa, Horton Plains, Rs. 150; Osborne, Glengariff, Rs. 100; Bogawana, Lynsted, Rs. 25; Tientsin Bridge, Poyston, Rs. 50; Queenswood Gap, Rs. 25; Kottagallakellie Gap, Rs. 10; Norwood, Stockholm, Rs. 75; Lethenty, Marlborough, Rs. 25; Claverton, Nyanza, Rs. 25; Warleigh Bridge, Church, Rs. 60; Fordyce Gap, Rs. 75; Annfield Gap, Rs. 56; Glencairn, Gorthie, Rs. 60; Kew, Kotiagalla, Rs. 100; Gorthie, Maskeliya, Rs. 75; Dunbar, Hatton, Rs. 25.—Total Rs. 936.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that this was slightly more than last year, the reason being that one or two roads in respect of which grants had not been applied for recently had now come in again. He hoped this would mean considerable road improvement in the district. The total grant for which they were applying was Rs. 936 as against Rs. 895 last year—or only some Rs. 40 more.

Mr. SPEIRS wrote with reference to a road in his district, in respect of which a grant of Rs. 100 is usually marked for, stating that the road was in good order. Consequently this Rs. 100 was not being applied for this year.

Mr. LYLE wrote with reference to the road from Bogawantalawa to Balangoda stating that he did not use the whole length of the road for his own purposes and that he did not use a bridge over the river at all. He thought a special grant should be obtained from Government for the section of the road he did not use and for the bridge.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that unfortunately Mr. Lyle had sent no estimate of the cost of repairing the bridge and the section of the road he did not use, neither did he give any idea of the extent of the section of the road he did not use. He did not see, therefore, what could be done in the matter at present. There was a proposal that

Government be asked to take over the road entirely as being a

CONNECTING LINK BETWEEN TWO PROVINCES, greatly used by native traffic going from one part of the country to another. It did seem somewhat unreasonable to expect estates to contribute towards the up-keep of such a road. The question of the road being taken over by Government was at present before the Sabaragamuwa Association.

Mr. BREBNER agreed that there was an enormous amount of native traffic on the road.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that apparently the bridge was a very necessary one from the point of view of the public.

Mr. SPARKES said he believed that on the Sabaragamuwa side the District Road Committee kept the road up entirely and that estates were not called upon to pay anything.

The CHAIRMAN: That will be a very strong point in our favour if it is so.

Mr. WILKINS expressed the opinion that there would be little difficulty in getting Government to take the road over if there was much native traffic upon it.

It was agreed to await the outcome of the Sabaragamuwa P.A.'s application that Government should take over the road.

Mr. SPARKES next alluded to the Bo-Patalawa road and pointed out that this road ran entirely through Government land and was a connecting road between two districts—the Agras and Bogawantalawa. He failed to see why any estate should be asked to pay for the upkeep of this road. All the traffic between the two districts passed over this road which ran from the bottom of Jacob's Ladder between the Lynsted and Holmwood boundaries.

Mr. SPARKES proposed, Mr. COWELL seconded, and the meeting passed the following resolution:—"That application for a grant of Rs. 200 for the Bo-Patalawa road be made on condition that the District Road Committee make exception to the rule that half the cost of upkeep of district minor roads be paid by the estates concerned."

CHURCH AND MEDICAL SCHEMES.

The next item on the agenda was "Church and Medical Schemes," and the CHAIRMAN said he had nothing further to bring before the meeting. He had received a private letter from the Bishop of Colombo with reference to the former matter and this was read in Committee. The Church Scheme sub-Committee, the Chairman added, was still in existence and efforts were being made to bring the scheme to a head, and he hoped to be able to lay something before them shortly.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

Mr. D. G. BREBNER had a complaint to make with reference to the telephones. It was frequently possible to get through from Bogawantalawa to Dikoya and he had a very recent instance of communication between these two places being cut off twice in 24 hours. The estates had all to pay a good deal of money to have the telephone

installed and he did not think they were getting value for that money. He did not think he had ever succeeded in getting through to Colombo. He would like to know the reason why the telephone system was not in working order.

Mr. KERSHAW said he had only taken it over three months ago. The reason for the stoppage of communication alluded to by Mr. Brebner was largely the inadequacy of the switchboard at Norwood. This switchboard had been condemned by the Superintendent of Telephones, and while in Colombo last week the speaker had purchased a new switchboard, but had not the funds to pay for it. The old indicators on the present switchboard were always fusing, but when they got the new switchboard in it would be quite satisfactory. The operator at Bogawantalawa had given trouble but was replaced last week. He hoped to have the District Telephone System in good working order in two months' time.

Mr. BREBNER said he was finding no fault with Mr. Kershaw. His complaint was that Government went about the matter in an altogether wrong way at the start. Government did not themselves intend to put up the telephones, but this being so why did they not give the work out on contract to a private concern? Why did they say to the Association, who knew nothing of engineering or of telephone work, "Put up your own telephones?" The telephones had been put up in a most hopeless way, were giving and would continue to give endless trouble until they were taken in hand by a professional engineer. The system did not work and never would work until it was put up in a proper scientific way.

Mr. KERSHAW did not agree. He was convinced that the system would work. He had only been at the work a short time, but Mr. Cook had promised to give any advice he could.

Mr. BREBNER: My complaint is that the telephones have been put badly from start to finish.

Mr. KERSHAW said Government had been very kind indeed in helping him with accessories. By his last visit to Colombo he calculated that he had saved from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250. Mr. Kershaw added that he had received no complaints from Mr. Brebner. Had he done so he would have sent a man to see to the telephone. Mr. Kershaw said he had been put to all sorts of shifts to keep the telephones going at all during the floods.

The matter then dropped.

THE HATTON STATION.

The CHAIRMAN then passed the plans of the proposed improvements to the Hatton railway station round the table for inspection. He mentioned that these plans had been sent to the Maskeliya P.A. by the General Manager of the Railway who asked that Association to pass them on. The plans proposed a great many alterations, one way and another, and when the proposals were carried out the comfort of the station would be, he thought, very considerably increased. There was one suggestion which the Maskeliya P.A. had made to Mr. G. P. Greene and that

was the addition of a cooly latrine at the end of the cooly shelter marked on the plan.

The suggestion the meeting thought a good one, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. G. P. Greene stating that the Dikoya P.A. supported the Maskeliya P.A.'s suggestion.

A letter was read from Mr. Shand asking for a list of the names of the subscribers from the Association to the Fund for repairing the Kandy Cemetery as he was preparing a booklet and guide for the benefit of those who might choose to visit the Cemetery.

The CHAIRMAN said that if there were any who, as Mr. Shand put it, "had not had the privilege of subscribing" he would be very pleased to send in their subscriptions.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT AND THE ROADS.

The following letter was read from the Colonial Secretary:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, October 24th, 1913.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT IN DIKOYA AND MASKELIYA.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of May 9th, 1913, regarding the above subject I am directed to state that the Director of Public Works reports that the cost of providing four passing places a mile on the roads in question is estimated as follows:—

Bathford Valley Road	...	...	Rs. 3,800
Maskeliya Road (Norwood Bridge to Moray)	...	...	5,300
Maskeliya Road (Maskeliya to Cruden)	...	...	2,400
Maskeliya Road (Brownlow to Luecombe)	...	...	3,500
Norwood-Upcot Road	...	...	5,400
Wanarajah Road	...	...	8,100
Annfield Road	...	...	3,100

Total.....Rs. 26,600

The Director of Public Works further reports that the Norwood-Campion Road has two weak bridges on it which will have to be re-built. The cost of the bridges and the construction of passing places on this road is estimated at Rs. 14,500.

No provision has been made in the above estimates for compensation spill damages or for the cost of land required for forming the passing places.

I am to add that an estimate has already been sanctioned for constructing passing places on the Board road from Norwood to Hatton.

I am, etc.,

A. N. GALBRAITH,
(for the Colonial Secretary.)

This concluded the business, and the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

RAMBODA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The fifth annual meeting of the Ramboda Planters' Association was held at the Ramboda Resthouse on Wednesday, 14th January, at 9-30 a.m. Present:—Messrs. A. F. Howie, P. L. Stewart, H. D. Bartlett, N. C.

Rolt, W. de Lemos, F. R. Pender (visitor), and Chas. J. Marzetti, Hon. Secretary, Messrs. J. N. Wilson Blackett and H. C. Lankester were represented by proxy. Messrs H. C. Marcel and Ed. S. Agur wrote regretting their inability to be present at the meeting.

In the regrettable absence of Mr. J. N. Wilson Blackett through illness, Mr. W. de Lemos was elected Chairman *pro tem*.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

Mr. W. de Lemos proposed and Mr. MARZETTI seconded that Mr. N. C. Rolt be elected Chairman for the coming year.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. Rolt proposed and Mr. MARZETTI seconded that Mr. A. F. HOWIE be elected Hon. Secretary.—Carried.

It was proposed by Mr. MARZETTI and seconded by Mr. HOWIE, that Messrs. de Lemos and J. N. Wilson Blackett be elected members of the Kandy Committee in addition to the Chairman and Hon. Secretary.—Carried.

Mr. de Lemos proposed and Mr. HOWIE seconded that Mr. N. C. Rolt be elected to represent the Association on the Hatton Nursing Committee.—Carried.

The new CHAIRMAN, Mr. N. C. Rolt, then thanked the meeting on his own behalf and said a few words of thanks to the retiring Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

Mr. MARZETTI then submitted his accounts for the past year, and these having been passed the report was then read as follows:—

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

We have the pleasure to report that our Association remains in a flourishing condition, and continues to do useful work. The number of estates on the register is the same as last year: the acreage in tea is now 6,626 acres, being an increase of 393 acres over 1912. The estimated tea crop for the coming season amounts to $3\frac{1}{4}$ millions, or 520 lbs. per acre of the tea in bearing. There are some 55 acres of rubber in the district.

FINANCES.—The balance at the credit of the Association is Rs. 29.70 after paying all liabilities.

MEETINGS.—We held four exceptionally well-attended meetings during the year.

WEATHER. The past year has been a most unfortunate one as regards flush. In fact it has been one of the worst on record. We have to record three disastrous floods, and we had no sooner recovered from one than another was upon us. The natural result of this was that many estates in the district were short of their estimates. In October we had a record flood, only to be followed a few weeks later by a still bigger one. The goods shed at Gampola railway station was under water on three occasions, and much damage resulted to estate produce and goods.

PESTS.—These have not been much in evidence this year, and even shot-hole borer seems to be losing its hold on the district.

LABOUR.—The state of labour remains much the same as in recent years, and more than one estate in the district would be glad of more coolies. A federation of proprietary planters has been started, but this is as yet hardly out of the experimental stage. It bids fair, however, to put a stop to the roving gangs of coolies we have recently been so troubled with.

RICE.—The cost of rice has remained high throughout the year, resulting in very considerable loss to most estates. It is earnestly to be hoped that some good will result from the deliberations of the special Committee appointed in Kandy to go into the question of the Coolies food supply.

CATTLE DISEASE.—Rinderpest and surra have been very prevalent in the district throughout 1913, and much inconvenience has been caused by interrupted transport. This only accentuates the need of motor transport, and this matter has engaged the attention of the Association at most of our recent meetings.

TELEPHONES.—The matter of a district telephone service has been one of our chief subjects of discussion, and having been brought forward is receiving the support of the neighbouring Association of Pussellawa.

ROADS.—The Nuwara Eliya-Gampola road has been kept in fair repair throughout the year in spite of the bad weather prevailing, although the rock slip between the 33rd and 34th mile-post seems to be taking a long time to repair. This Association, however, wish to record their appreciation of the work done by the District Engineers of Nuwara Eliya and Pussellawa on more than one occasion during the past year under very trying circumstances.

CATTLE TRESPASS.—Cattle straying on the public roads again requires the attention of our Association. It is getting worse, and is by no means confined to native owners.

DISTRICT HOSPITAL.—This is reported in good order, and the small number of patients receiving treatment there speaks well for the general health of the district.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—No funds were collected by the Association as in former years, the Secretary of the Benevolent Fund having intervened with an individual appeal for subscriptions. It is however, doubtful whether by so doing he will succeed in equalling local efforts formerly made by the various Honorary Secretaries on behalf of the fund.

VOLUNTEERS.—Volunteering seems practically defunct in the district, and no drills have been held in the locality as they used to be. It is to be hoped that our local enthusiasts are only undergoing a rest cure.

N. J. WILSON BLACKETT, Chairman.

CHAS. J. MARZETTI, Hon. Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the adoption of the report, said he would like to suggest the names of the District Engineer of Nuwara Eliya and the District Engineer of Pussellawa as honorary members of the Association. This was carried unanimously, and the Hon. Secretary was requested to write to the two gentlemen concerned.

This concluded all the business before the meeting, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

A. F. HOWIE,
Hon. Secretary,
Ramboda P.A.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND OF CEYLON.

The annual general meeting of the members of the corporation of the Planters' Benevolent Fund of Ceylon, was held in the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, at 12 noon on Friday, 13th February. Mr. F. H. Layard presided, and the others present were: Messrs. Hew Kennedy, R. G. Coombe, N. C. Rolt, W. de Lemos, N. J. Wilson Blackett, W. C. Hawke, C. B. Clay, W. F. Baker, Wm. Gibson, H. L. Egan, C. W. Bovy Lysberg, Neil G. Campbell and John Still (Secretary.)

THE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

After preliminaries the CHAIRMAN offered a few remarks on the report. The report for the year had been practically printed; and a rough proof had been handed to him.

the list of subscribers was not completed, and it would be added later. Before moving the adoption of the report submitted the following facts dealing with the Fund in the past year. There were 385 private subscribers and 9 estate subscribers. In 1911 the subscriptions amounted Rs. 6,840; in 1912 nearly Rs. 9,000, and in 1913 it was raised to Rs. 17,159. That was due to the action of the committee appointing gentlemen in different districts to obtain funds locally from the various districts. The donations and subscriptions amounted to Rs. 27,430.14. Out of that assistance was fully rendered to several, leaving a credit balance unexpended of Rs. 237,134.92. The subscriptions in 1913 amounted to Rs. 12,602.45. He was told that a deserving case had been refused assistance during the last year. Many of the old pensions were raised, and many new pensions were granted. The total number of those benefited was 51 males and 17 females, and the amount paid was Rs. 20,419. It was proposed in future, instead of sending the list of subscribers round, to authorise the bank to make the payment and render the account.

The report and accounts were then adopted.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the report was not full of details as it might be, as the Committee was of opinion that the details were of a private nature and did not interest the majority of people, and they were withheld; but anyone wishing to have any further information could get it.

Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co. who had audited the accounts in the past year, were re-elected for the current year.

This was all the business before the meeting.

PUSSELLAWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of the Pussellawa Planters' Association was held at the Courthouse, Pussellawa, on Thursday, the 22nd January, at 2 p.m., preceded by a Committee meeting at 1.30 p.m. Present:—Messrs. H. M. Picken (Chairman), P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary), W. F. C. Holt, Nelson Brown, H. J. P. Samarasekera, G. R. B. Williams, Gilbert Fenning, Douglas Westland, C. D. Woolridge, Sir Francis Sibbald Scott, J. Murray and H. Lapham. In the absence of Mr. Geo. E. Benzie, Mr. H. L. Picken was unanimously elected chairman *pro tem*.

COMMITTEE MEETING.

The Committee dealt with the details of the annual report exhaustively eliciting information in connection with it and devoting two hours for the consideration of the same.

TEA THEFTS.

The question of recurrent thefts of tea is now in the hands of the Kandy Association, so Mr. P. P. C. Walker informed, which intends to submit the urgency for a new Bill to the Government.

TELEPHONES.

Mr. P. P. C. Walker said that nothing definite had been arrived at present, as information was yet being collected regarding the same. Answers to his letters in connection with the subject were received.

GAMPOLA HOSPITAL.

The following correspondence was read:—

Mahavilla Group,
Ulapana,
December 21st, 1913.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour again to draw the attention of Government to the unhealthy position of the Gampola Government Hospital and to the urgent necessity of removing it to a site less exposed to the disastrous effects of periodical floods.

The floor of the most elevated ward is about nine feet below high flood level, and, as a resident of thirty-eight years in the district, I make this statement from actual markings of the high floods during that period.

The hospital flooded on an average of more than once a year, and this year it has been four times more or less submerged. On the last two occasions the 6th of October, 1913, and the 17th of this month (Dec.) 1913, the water rose to the height of 3 feet 9 inches and 6 feet 3 inches respectively above the floor level of the most elevated ward. The lowest wards being on the last occasion submerged so that only the roofs were visible.

In the October flood 52 patients and in the December flood 54 patients had to be hurriedly removed in torrents of rain to the D. M. O.'s bungalow and crowded together in an open verandah, kept there for over twenty-four hours and then taken back to occupy the saturated wards. On both these occasions I personally visited the hospital and saw the damaging effects of the submergence.

Immediately after the floods of October, 1906, His Excellency Sir Henry Arthur Blake personally visited and inspected the damage done and then and there expressed his opinion that the site of the hospital was a bad one and that it should be moved to higher ground.

Nothing, however, has been done, and on behalf of the planting community, of the general inhabitants of the district, and in the interests of humanity, I would urge upon Government its removal as early as possible to a suitable site.

I am informed that a few years ago, a survey was made at the instance of Government of a new site on Marriawatte estate, on the opposite side of the Government high road to the present hospital, and I understand there would be no difficulty in acquiring this site at a reasonable price.

The necessity of moving the hospital to a new site was brought strongly before Government in 1907.

Copies of previous correspondence and from the minutes of the Pussellawa Planters' Association on the subject are enclosed for private perusal in order to make clear the very strong feeling in the district on this matter, &c.

GEO. E. BENZIE,
Chairman, Pussellawa Planters' Association.
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo January 19th, 1914.

CHAIRMAN,
Pussellawa. P.A.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 21st December, 1913, I am directed to inform you that it has been decided to include provision in the estimates, 1914-15, for building a new hospital at Gampola.

2. Steps will be taken to acquire a suitable site this year, if possible.

I am, Sir,
M. A. YOUNG,
for Colonial Secretary.

A DANGEROUS BRIDGE.

Mr. P. P. C. Walker said that he inspected with Mr. Wallace Westland the Pooparasie Bridge, which, was in

such a condition as to endanger the public. On representation being made, the Government had declined to move in the matter, as it was not a public one.

ELECTION OF A COMMITTEE TO DRAW UP THE ANNUAL REPORT.

Messrs. H. M. Picken, P. P. C. Walker, W. F. C. Rolt, Nelson Brown, H. J. P. Samarasekere, Sir Francis Sibbald Scott, G. R. B. Williams, G. Fenning, Douglas Westland, C. D. Woolridge and Clapham.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated.—Gampola Cor., January 23rd.

PUNDALOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held on Thursday, 22nd January, at Sheen at 2.30 p.m. Present:—Messrs. J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman), H. L. Egan, G. B. Stuart, J. A. Stuart, C. Owen, R. Napier (visitor).

THE ANNUAL REPORT

was read as follows:—

YEAR'S WORK.—In going over the past year's work to begin with the gentlemen who have left the district are Messrs. Gibson and B. V. Wood, and the gentlemen who have come in their places are Messrs. C. Owen and A. Stuart.

LABOUR.—Tamil labour has been fairly plentiful during the last year and with the help of Sinhalese estimated crops have been carried out, and secured although cyclones have been a record. The P. L. F. has been started since October 3rd, which is hoped will help to settle the labour question.

LIQUID FUEL INSTALLATION.—Messrs. Delmego, Forsyth & Co. are now cutting site at Wattagoda Station, and will in the course of a few months have it erected.

PUNDALOYA AND TAWALANTENNE CART-ROAD.—This road has been improved, two corners railed up, one corner widened as well as rails put up on side of stream below Eton. The corner of 34th mile-post above hospital still remains to be done, but P. W. D. have refused to do this unless the Pundaloya planters will agree to pay damage done to paddy fields from soil deposit on Government reserve. This has been pointed out to the Government Agent who is seeing to it.

WATAGODA ROAD.—This I regret has somehow not been got on with, and I regret it is this end that has been delayed, and belongs to Pussellawa D.E. I wrote him on this subject on the 12th December, from whom I have not heard and I hear, although I have not seen it, that the road is being got on with now. The delay is most probably due to change of District Engineer.

MOTOR LORRIES.—This question is at present at a dead lock, as Government will only allow us to use 2½ tons lorries, which will not pay. I have written to the General Manager of the Railway asking him if he could run a lorry on the same lines, as they do in Rangalla. Their answer is not actually a refusal, and he is willing to discuss this question in Colombo. I regret I have not been able to attend every Kandy Meeting, but have attended as many as I was able. As far as I can hear the toddy tavern by Sheen has not done any harm to the district, and taking it all round more check has been put on the sale of arrack. The health of coolies has been satisfactory.

TELEPHONES.—This I regret has struck. However, I hope 1914 will see this an accomplished thing.

DOCTOR'S BUNGALOW IN DIMBULA.—This is at present at a dead lock as only 60 per cent. have come in, which is not sufficient, and it is earnestly requested that those who have not supported this will do their best to see their way to do so.

The following officers for 1914 were elected:—

Mr. J. B. Sidgwick, Chairman.

Mr. C. Owen, Hon. Secretary.

Mr. H. L. Egan, Benevolent Fund and Hospital Visitor.

Mr. J. H. Marcel, Committee.

Correspondence re motor lorries and Dimbula Doctor's Bungalow was read.

Mr. Egan's report on the Hospital and Dispensary was discussed and it was passed at the meeting that the P.C. M.O. should have it brought to his notice that river water was being used for dispensing instead of well water, which is close by.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Egan for visiting the hospital during the past year was carried.

It was proposed by Mr. A. STUART that Mr. Marcel be appointed as Chairman of a sub-Committee to go into the matter of Motor Transport. Seconded by Mr. EGAN. The Committee is to consist of Messrs. Marcel, A. Stuart and J. B. Sidgwick.

C. OWEN,
Hon. Secretary.

BADULLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The 30th annual meeting of the Association was held in the Town Hall, Badulla, on Saturday, 24th January, 1914, at 10 a.m., preceded by a Committee meeting at 9 a.m. Those present at the general meeting included:—Messrs. T. G. Elliott (Chairman), J. W. Balfour Paul, H. St. G. Carey, J. W. Scott, R. Gatehouse, W. G. B. Dickson, A. E. Peter, W. J. Forbes, A. I. Jainu Deen, K. Jainu Deen (jnr.), R. H. Harrison, C. F. Way, J. M. C. Girardot, C. S. Peter, D. G. Norman (Chairman, Passara P.A.), K. Sentance Smith, B. Strachan, G. E. Burney, F. Stewart, H. Jones, N. F. Palmer, J. W. Parker, R. B. Jamieson, E. Napier, H. T. R. Ford, C. J. Adamthwaite, J. D. Walker, Wilfred Rettie (Hon. Secretary), and A. E. Stayner (visitor).

The notice convening the meeting having been read and the minutes of a meeting held on December 13th, 1913, confirmed, the bi-annual report of the Hospital Visitors was submitted.

The CHAIRMAN considered it a highly satisfactory one to all concerned. The so-called Planters' Ward was more accurately a paying ward for planters and Europeans generally, and he did not understand why the Association alone should be called upon for funds. Their Hospital Ward Account had already been overspent, but as the matter concerned them as a body, he invited subscriptions to which appeal a number of those present responded.

ACCOUNTS.

The accounts for the year 1913 were laid on the table and passed.

On the proposal of Mr. GATEHOUSE, seconded by the HON. SECRETARY, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. J. D. Walker for auditing them.

The Annual Report for 1913, drawn up by Messrs. Gatehouse, Scott, Chairman and Hon. Secretary, was read.

THE REPORT.

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting their Report for the year 1913, being the thirtieth since the formation of the Association.

MEETINGS.—During the year, four General and five Committee meetings have been held.

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 49 estates on the roll of membership, 1 private members and one Honorary Member.

FINANCE.—The accounts show a credit balance in the Bank of Rs. 122/66 and Rs. 84/42 due to Hospital Ward account. The books and accounts of the Association are laid on the table for inspection.

CROPS.—Tea. Though nearly double the normal rainfall for the year has been badly distributed. Heavy and continuous rains during January and February, followed by an abnormal drought throughout June, July, August and September, had an adverse effect on yields, and few estates in consequence realised their estimates. On the other hand have been satisfactory. The total acreage of tea is 28,733 acres, of which 21,605 acres are in bearing. The crop harvested in 1913 was 12,082,309 lbs. averaging 563 lbs. per acre, as compared with 12,666,256 lbs. averaging 585 lbs. per acre in 1912. The estimated crop for 1914 is 13,011,550 lbs. and 4,500 lbs. from native gardens.

RUBBER.—There has been no extension in this product during the year. Unlike tea, rubber in the district shows few signs of having been affected by the drought, and on some estates continued to yield freely. Prices compare favourably with other parts of the island. The total acreage in rubber is 1,894 acres, of which 727 acres are in partial bearing.

LABOUR.—Your Committee view with apprehension the continued competition for labour in the district, and would strongly press upon members the necessity for individual effort on the part of the estate. It is to be hoped that the recently revised Proprietors' Labour Ordinance, by promoting a more intimate knowledge of the actual dealings between coolies, will tend to a decrease in advances and more settled labour conditions generally.

ROADS.—As usual during the dry season, the Bandarawella-Badulla road was in a deplorable condition. This can hardly be otherwise when the traffic at present using the road is considered. A great improvement is now noticeable, however. The effects of the storm of December 16th, on the Dickwella-Nuwara Eliya road are very serious, and there is little hope of its being open to traffic for a considerable period. The loss of the Dickwella Bridge has caused a great inconvenience to the district, but when the temporary structure erected by the Government, it is hoped cart traffic will not again be interrupted till the bridge is re-built.

COMMUNICATIONS.—The slip on the railway in Haputale Estate has falsified prophecies by giving no further trouble. Your Committee are still of the opinion that more accommodation for the carriage of goods should be provided at Haputale and that the Haputale-Bandarawella road should be widened and improved. Good progress has been made with the Bandarawella-Badulla Railway Extension, and it is hoped the work will continue to be pushed forward with the utmost rapidity. The rains of 1913 have placed a heavy strain on the Railway, and your Committee would like to place on evidence the promptitude and despatch displayed by the authorities in dealing with the many slips during this exceptional year of floods.

LIQUID FUEL.—The agitation for increased storage accommodation for liquid fuel at Bandarawella has resulted in the Proprietors' decision to erect another 8,000 gallon tank, which it is hoped will shortly be completed.

TELEPHONES.—Your Committee regret that the proposal to erect a Telephone System with an Exchange in Badulla has not been materialised. The present Government rates for a Telephone

Installation are manifestly prohibitive, and in view of the isolated position the district occupies, it is hoped Government will treat the scheme with more sympathy and consideration.

RESTHOUSES.—Your Committee are again unable to record any improvement in the condition of Resthouses in the Province.

VOLUNTEERING.—Both the C. M. R. & C. P. R. C. have reason to be gratified with their progress during the year, and your Committee trust both Corps will continue to be strongly supported.

RINDERPEST.—Several outbreaks of rinderpest occurred in the Province during the earlier part of the year, but local authorities are to be congratulated on having kept the main roads free from the disease. 1913 has vied with past years in its roll of troubles, and the district has perhaps had more than its share. The disastrous flood of December 16th wrought much damage on individual estates and was quite unprecedented.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the past year had been an unsatisfactory one to all, and indeed disastrous to a few estates, the only satisfaction being that the year was ended. Yields were disappointing, but prices on the whole had been satisfactory. He hoped the forthcoming season would be a more favourable and prosperous one. Their communications had suffered severely from flood damages, so much so, that at the beginning of the year, the majority of estates were short of supplies, and a number were even threatened with famine. The loss on rice too had been very heavy. As usual during the latter months of the year, the main roads were badly cut up by the heavy traffic placed on them, but he considered the P. W. D., had done their best, hampered as they were by a shortage of labour. It was, however, expedient that they should be in a better position to deal with such emergencies in future. An enterprising local firm were shortly to place an up-to-date type of petrol-driven lorry on the road. It was to be hoped it would prove a success and gradually replace the unwieldy type at present running. He thanked the Committee for their assistance, and members for their keen interest in and good attendance at meetings during the year.

The annual report was then adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The meeting then went into Committee to discuss the proposed Private Medical Practitioner Scheme, submitted by the sub-Committee appointed.

Mr. GATEHOUSE fully detailed the scheme, and after some discussion, it was approved by members and referred to the first committee meeting of the Combined Uva Associations.

LIQUID FUEL.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that the site proposed by the General Manager of the Railway for the erection of an additional 8,000 gallon liquid fuel tank at Bandarawella, had been approved of and sanctioned by the Local Board. It now remained for Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. to erect it, which he hoped would be done, without delay.

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

A resolution passed at a recent Committee meeting of the Federation "That this Committee is prepared to give

consideration to any suggestions for the improvement or amendment of the Federation rules," was read. The CHAIRMAN was of opinion that it was premature to consider this resolution, as the Federation had not long been in operation. The meeting agreed with his view.

THE COAST AGENCY.

A letter was read from the Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon, stating "That the question whether all persons wishing to become subscribers to the Coast Agency should first be asked to join their district Association would be brought before the next meeting of the Planters' Association General Committee." It received the support of the meeting.

STIPEND FUND, ST. MARK'S CHURCH.

Mr. A. E. PETER submitted a scheme for placing the above fund on a sound basis. He detailed an account of the expenditure necessary to retain the services of a vicar and curate and solicited the support of members. The Chairman hoped that all would do their best to assist in carrying the proposal through.

COAST AGENCY CESS.

The resolution from the P. A. of Ceylon "That in view of the need to extend the working of the Coast Agency, the contribution shall be raised from 30-45 cents per cultivated acre," was read. A discussion ensued and it was decided to support the resolution, on the proposal of the Chairman, who remarked that there would have to be a clear understanding as to the benefits likely to accrue from the extra expenditure.

ROADS.

The damage done by the recent cyclonic storm to roads and bridges in the district was discussed.

Mr. W. G. B. DICKSON pointed out that though six weeks had elapsed since the storm, no effort had yet been made to reconstruct the Dickwella Bridge. The temporary structure was suitable for cart traffic, but quite unfit for motor lorries, a matter of vital importance to the district, especially at the busy season was approaching. No attempt had even been made to build the necessary abutments, which was surely a matter for immediate attention. He did not wish to appear captious, but the breach in their main outlet was a serious matter and worthy of a special effort on the part of the P. W. D. officials. Another matter he wished to bring to the notice of the meeting, was the lack of information obtainable from the Provincial Engineer regarding the condition of roads outside his Province. When one wished to visit say Kandy or Colombo, an enquiry at the local office elicited no information whatever. Records of the condition of roads in the Island were obtainable at headquarters, and he suggested that the P. W. D. be asked to forward such information to outstations for the benefit of enquirers.

Mr. C. S. PETER understood that motor lorries were to be allowed on the Bandarawella-Namunukula-Passara Road for two days in each week, when cart traffic would be suspended. He pointed out that the present condition of the road would not permit of this.

It was decided that the Chairman and Hon. Secretary should interview the Provincial Engineer on these matters, and, if necessary, send a strong appeal to the Colonial Secretary.

GOVERNMENT RESERVATIONS.

Mr. A. E. PETER, in a lengthy speech, proposed the following resolution, "That the reservations for paths, minor roads and streams, now being put on Crown Land advertised for sale, are in a number of cases unwarrantable and vexatious, and that Government be requested to empower the Government Agents to lease such reservations as they may consider unnecessary to the purchaser, without reserve." He explained that this was not a matter which affected developed estates, but was of the utmost importance to those engaged in opening new land. It especially affected the Province of Uva, where large areas were annually being opened in tea. Formerly Government put reservations on land sold, but subsequently leased them at a rental of Re. 1 per acre per annum. These were now reserved unconditionally. The actual task of deciding and laying out reservations was left in the hands of surveyors, who were allowed to place them where they considered necessary, with the result that land was intersected and cut up into small blocks, for no apparent reason other than that a number of small ravines and paths existed. Surely this was carrying matters too far. If it was necessary to safeguard a right of way, the lessor might be allowed to see that the road itself was kept open.

Mr. GATHHOUSE, in seconding Mr. Peter, said he supposed reservations were originally intended to conserve the watershed of the higher land and to protect streams. But today Government went so far as to reserve a strip of path on either side of a Gansabawa road, an eyesore to the estate and a nursery for weeds. It was difficult to understand how a strip of path was preferable to tea, and leguminous trees for protecting a stream. He strongly supported Mr. Peter's resolution.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Parent Association be asked to take the matter up, after the resolution had been submitted to the other district Associations for support.—Carried.

POSSESSION OF LAND SOLD BY GOVERNMENT.

Mr. W. G. B. DICKSON proposed, "That Government be asked not only to guarantee titles, but to put the purchaser in possession of land purchased from the Settlement officers." He emphasised the fact that Government, in selling a block of land, left the purchaser to eject an occupant claiming a portion of it. Members would readily understand the difficulties attached to this. It devolved upon Government to put the purchaser in possession, and not force upon him the necessity for having to institute proceedings against and eject occupants who had no real claim. It was in many cases a most difficult undertaking and caused endless delays. He specified a case in which Government had sold him a block of land and sent the title deeds within four months, an unusually quick performance.

in the part of the Land Settlement Department. The reason was that they had received information that a certain occupant of the land was giving trouble and wished to hand it over at once, throwing upon the purchaser the necessity of proving his claim and ousting the trespasser. Members would admit that these circumstances justified the resolution and he hoped they would strongly support it.

Mr. A. E. PETER seconded, and laid before the meeting a concrete case in which he had found it impossible to eject a certain occupant in land sold him by the Land Settlement Department.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the resolution should be sent to the Central P.A. for legal advice.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

This business was then proceeded with, Mr. T. G. Elliott vacating the Chair, which was filled by Mr. H. St. Geo. Carey *pro tem*. He proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded Mr. Elliott for his services to the District, and the able manner in which he had conducted their meetings during the past two years, which was carried unanimously, with applause.

Mr. ELLIOTT, in reply, thanked the meeting for their words of appreciation and said the work had always been a great pleasure to him, cordially supported as he had been by the members of the Association.

Mr. J. W. BALFOUR PAUL, seconded by Mr. ELLIOTT, proposed that Mr. Reg. Gatehouse be asked to take the Chair, which was carried.

Mr. GATEHOUSE thanked members for the honour they had done him, an honour he much appreciated. He would do his best to consult their interests and the interests of the District during his term of office. He hoped that they in their turn would regularly attend meetings and give him the necessary support.

Mr. SCOTT, seconded by Mr. ELLIOTT, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. W. Rettie for his services and hoped he would continue the duties of Hon. Secretary for another year.

Mr. RETTIE suitably replied, and said he would have much pleasure in carrying on. Might he ask members to assist him by replying to circulars and requests for statistics by return.

* The Following General Committee was elected:—Messrs. T. G. Elliott, J. W. Scott, W. G. B. Dickson, J. W. Balfour Paul, James Duncan, Robert Stewart, H. St. Geo. Carey, W. J. Forbes, A. E. Peter, R. M. Sutor, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. T. G. Elliott, W. G. B. Dickson, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs R. M. Sutor and C. E. May.

P.R.C. MEMBERS.—Mr. R. Gatehouse.

S.P.C.A.—Mr. C. J. Adamthwaite.

PLANT PEST BOARD.—Mr. T. G. Elliott.

P.B. FUND.—Mr. W. G. B. Dickson.

CEYLON NURSING ASSOCIATION.—The Rev. E. V. Freeman.

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the proceedings.

WILFRED RETTIE,
Hon. Secretary.

GALLE DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The final general meeting of the Galle District Planters' Association for 1913 was held on Saturday, 24th January, at 12-45 p.m. in the drawing-room of the New Oriental Hotel. There were present Messrs. M. J. Alderson (Chairman), C. G. Simmonds, A. W. Winter, E. D. Bowman, H. Scott, F. Griffiths, Chas. Northway, J.P., and Sydney Blann, Secretary.

Mr. C. G. Simmonds, who presided at the meetings of the Association during Captain Alderson's absence on furlough, occupied the chair *pro tem* upon the motion of Captain Alderson.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Alderson and Mr. Blann, who had filled the offices of Chairman and Secretary during the past year with much acceptance, were retiring. He proposed votes of thanks to Mr. Alderson for occupying the chair and to Mr. Blann for his secretarial work, which he knew occupied much time. The votes were carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

The CHAIRMAN said the first business on the agenda for the day was the election of a chairman and other officers. They might as well ask Mr. Alderson to act again. They required an energetic person for the office. Mr. Alderson had just returned from furlough and was the right man. Personally, he thought they could not do better than ask Mr. Alderson to accept the chair.

As regards the Secretary, the speaker had filled the office for eight years and knew the time and trouble it entailed, and at times he found it very discouraging. Today's meeting was small, but the last one was unusually well attended. It was rather hard when districts were divided. Districts were growing and population increasing yearly. If they were united they would have a louder voice and, being in a body, could make themselves heard. As a proof he mentioned that by reason of their agitation the Mahamodera Hospital was enlarged and practically rebuilt and put in order generally. But he was digressing.

Mr. ALDERSON proposed the re-appointment of Mr. Blann, who declined the office and proposed Mr. H. Scott. Mr. SCOTT begged to be excused and proposed the name of Mr. Griffiths, who, in turn, excused himself as he would be away from Galle most of the time. The chairman said that it was almost necessary that the Secretary be a sort of a fixture. After a short delay Mr. Scott consented and was duly elected Secretary.

Mr. ALDERSON then took the chair amid much applause and expressed thanks on his own and Mr. Scott's behalf.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

The next item was the appointment of an executive Committee.

Mr. GRIFFITHS remarked that they should prefer Committee members who attended the meetings. It was resolved that last year's Committee be re-appointed with the exception of Mr. Colquhoun, and the Secretary was directed to write and ask Mr. Sirimane if he would consent to serve in place of Mr. Colquhoun. Provided Mr. Sirimane consents, the Committee for 1914 will consist of the following:—Messrs. S. H. Titley, C. Northway, A. W. Winter, C. G. Simmonds, A. C. Hayley, and J. Sirimane.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.

Messrs. A. W. Winter and S. H. Titley for Galle, Mr. Northway for Balapitiya, and Mr. Sydney Blann for Udugama were re-appointed Visitors of Hospital for 1914.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

When this subject was brought up Mr. BOWMAN mentioned that at a recent meeting of the District Road Committee, of which he was a member, a resolution was passed that directly the Superintendent of Minor Roads returns from leave he be asked to furnish estimates for putting all the bridges in proper order, and that a special grant from Government be applied for.

Mr. WINTER proposed that the Association do write to Government enquiring the number of acres of land sold during the last 10 years within 3 miles of (a) the road from Sandarawala to Wanduramba and (b) from the turn off from the Old Udugama road to Baddegama. A very large acreage, he said, had been sold, but no road had been provided. He thought Government might also be asked what sum had been expended on the above-mentioned roads 10 years ago, and how much was expended at present. His reason for wanting this information was that the Land Department got the value of the land sold and the Forest Department the value of the timber on it. There should be a road to get to the land sold. It did not effect Udugama much, since they had two roads.

Mr. SCOTT said that one good road was preferable to two indifferent ones.

Mr. SIMMONDS enquired whether the want of the road affected any estates, or only native traffic. The Association could not ask Government for roads to serve properties that did not concern it.

Mr. WINTER replied that it did concern the Association and the Secretary was directed to write for the information.

Mr. GRIFFITHS thought it a shame that parts of trees blown down by the storm on the 16th ultimo were still lying on a part of Morris Road. Only portions had been removed which were obstructing traffic, but the stumps remained.

DAANGEROUS BRIDGES.

Mr. WINTERS said that at almost every bridge in the district notices to the effect that the bridges were dangerous

had been posted up. He wished to know how long these notices had been up and how long more they would remain there.

The CHAIRMAN then read the following letter:—

Galle, 5th September, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Galle District Planters' Association,
Udugama.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 25th ultimo I have the honour to inform you that the Maha Edanda bridge will be replanked very shortly.

I deny that there is any justification for the statement that the Elpitiya-Ambalangoda and Wanduramba-Baddegama roads "are nothing but tracks of the worst kind."

2. The Baddegama ferry boat will be repaired shortly by the P.W.D.

I am, Sir,
R. B. HELLINGS, G.A., S.P.

It was resolved to notice the authorities that metal had been piled on the Ambalangoda-Elpitiya road in such a way as to obstruct traffic.

COAST AGENCY AND INCREASED CESS.

The following letter was read and the matter then deferred:—

Colombo, 22nd January, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
Galle District P.A., Galle.

SIR,

I am directed to enclose copy of a letter received from the Coast Agency Association. The circular embodying the Committee's reason for recommending that the cess should be raised from 30 to 45 cents per acre, was sent to the sub-Committee appointed for that purpose and to all agency firms, and this may be regarded as their collective reply. I am now directed to enquire whether you would consider it advisable to bring forward the resolution as it stands "That in view of the need to extend the working of the Coast Agency the contribution shall be raised from 30 to 45 cents per cultivated acre or whether you think it expedient to amend the resolution somewhat as follows: "That in view of the need to extend the working of the Coast Agency, this Association considers it desirable that the contribution should be raised;" or thirdly whether in view of the fact that the recruiting season is advanced you would prefer that the resolution be withdrawn from the agenda of the forthcoming general meeting and brought up again later in the year.

JOHN STILL.

HOSPITAL FOR ELPITIYA.

The next subject considered was regarding hospitals, when the Secretary read the following letter:—

Colombo, 16th January, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Galle District P.A.,
Udugama.

SIR,

With reference to my letter No. 9809 of the 19th September, 1913, on the above subject, I have the honour to request you to be so good as to let me know whether quarters can be rented for a District Medical Officer at Elpitiya?

I am, Sir, &c.,
G. J. RUTHERFORD,
for P.C.M.O.

The Secretary was directed to reply that a suitable bungalow for the District Medical Officer could be secured. The following was also read:—

Udugama,
30th October, 1913.

To THE P.C.M.O. AND I.G.H.,
Colombo.

With reference to my letter dated the 18th ultimo addressed to P.C.M.O. under the head hospital for Elpitiya I have been requested to write to you giving such information as I can as regards labour force, &c., which I give—

Tamil labour force which a hospital would serve ...	5,000
Sinhalese residents on estates ...	1,000
European planters, their wives and children ...	30
Native planters ...	6

LIST OF ESTATES.—(1) Talgaswela, (2) Mapalagama, (3) Gal-la, (4) Deviturai, (5) Pati Rajah, (6) Kirimettia, (7) St. Leon-ls on Sea, (8) Igalkanda, (9) Ellewatte, (10) Galkanda, (11) Mahabiligoda, (12) Katandola, (13) Nagahatenne, (14) Atuwagala, (15) Kitulwitigala, (16) Giragodde, (17) Bentota Estate, (18) Atu-salakande, (19) Hurstpierpont.

I am, Sir, &c.,
SYDNEY BLANN,
Secretary G.D.P.A.

HOSPITAL VISITOR'S REPORT.

Reports sent in by hospital visitors were then read referring to Balapitiya Hospital and Udugama Dispensary:—

(1) "Deviturai," Ambalangoda.—I last visited the Balapitiya Hospital at 10 a.m. on the 9th January and was shown round by Dr. F. Vethecan, M.O. There were 25 males and 18 females in hospital on this date mostly estate labourers who all seemed to be well looked after and made no complaints. The wards and trines were well kept and clean in all respects.

The female ward was overcrowded. I inspected the kitchen and food. The kitchen was clean and the food appeared well cooked.

C. NORTHWAY.

(2) The dispensary at Udugama was visited on Wednesday, 10th December, 1913, at 9.30 a.m. Dr. Schokman, D.M.O., was in charge. The buildings and grounds were clean and in good order. The medicines were sufficient and the instruments clean. There were 12 patients awaiting treatment at the time of the visit. The building to which the dispensary was recently moved was more roomy than the old one. The district has improved considerably in recent years and a dispensary is now totally inadequate to meet its medical wants. The question of erecting a hospital should be immediately considered.

SYDNEY BLANN.

HOSPITAL FOR UDUGAMA.

Speaking of a suitable site for the above, Mr. SIMMONDS said that there were several sites between "Stokesland" and "Ginidominy" estates. He did not anticipate any difficulty about a site—the trouble was to get the authorities to sanction a hospital for the Udugama district.

It was resolved:—"That the P.C.M.O. be written to regarding the insufficiency of the hospital accommodation at Galle and that, failing the sanction for a hospital at Udugama for use of the estates of the district, a civil hospital be opened there.

REPORT ON GALLE HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN at the request of Mr. Winter then read the following report:—

Pilagoda Valley, Baddegama.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
G.D.P.A., Udugama.

DEAR SIR,

I have the pleasure to report that I visited the Mahamodera General Hospital on the 2nd August, 1913, when I found 50 male and 22 female patients, who seemed to be well cared for and contented. The hospital and premises looked neat and clean. This hospital has two fly-proof wards for males and females, but they not only keep out the flies but the air to a great extent, with the result that the rooms are very hot and stuffy. The salt-laden moist sea air clogs the wire mesh and very little air gets in. The wards must be very useful, but at the same time perhaps some other material than metal which I am told only lasts for about six months might with advantage be tried—mosquito net, for instance, including the outer verandah which would give more air space. The kitchen and everything there looked clean, but I did not approve of the water from the boiling rice being ladled out. This may give the rice a cleaner and whiter appearance, but I am afraid most of the nourishment is at the same time removed.

During the Mutiny the sepoys who requested that rice water only be given them and the rice to the European troops knew what they were about.

OUTSIDE DOCTOR AND NURSE.—I quite agree with the Kandy P. A. and suggest that not only outside doctors but trained nurses should be allowed in hospitals where Government nurses are not available. About 15 years ago I wished to get down the late Dr. Rockwood who had just left Government service to see a patient in whom I was interested, and who was seriously ill in the Galle hospital. The then doctor in charge thought it could not be allowed until it was brought to his notice that the good doctor had still something to do with the Colombo hospital. Then again about five years ago in a case of enteric I wished to engage the services of one or two trained nurses to attend on the patient as Government nurses could not be spared. This the doctor told me was against regulations and could not be allowed. That patient died, and I cannot get over the idea it was a great deal due to want of nursing, especially when later I found that even medicine had not been administered at times. In this case, too, I wanted an eminent Colombo doctor to visit the patient, and, although I was told he had done so, I have never to this day had his bill.

I went on the spur of the moment, and am sorry had no chance of communicating with Mr. Titley, the other visitor to accompany me.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
A. W. WINTER.

Mr. WINTER said that the present doctor in charge of the hospital had no objection to outside nurses, however, he (the speaker) wished it made a rule.

Mr. SIMMONDS said there were certain Government rules that could not be violated, and perhaps this was one of them.

Mr. BOWMAN suggested asking for an increased staff of nurses.

Mr. GRIFFITHS agreed. He thought that where an outside nurse was employed, those in charge of the hospital lost interest in the case.

Mr. WINTER said that quite recently his sister entered hospital, and the doctor had difficulty in getting a nurse to look after and attend her.

Mr. SIMMONDS said that that was proof that the hospital was understaffed.

Mr. Bowman's suggestion was approved and passed.

REST HOUSES.

In reply to a complaint by Mr. Lushington at the last meeting regarding the state of Ambalangoda and Elpitiya resthouses the Chairman read the following letter:—

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Galle Planters' Association.

Galle, September 5th, 1913.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that the rest-house keepers have been warned. A new fire place has been built at Elpitiya and Ambalangoda is having an entirely new set of outhouses constructed.

R. B. HELLINGS,
Chairman, P. R. C.

MOTOR LORRIES.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that raising the weight to 1½ tons had been sanctioned. He then read the following:—

MOTOR LORRY TRANSPORT.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Galle District P. A.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that Government has sanctioned a proposal made by the Director of Public Works, viz., that the load per axle of light lorries may be raised to 1½ tons per axle when fully loaded.

I am, Sir, etc.,
R. B. HELLINGS.

J. P. AND U. P. M.

A letter notifying the appointment of Mr. C. Northway a Justice of the Peace and Unofficial Police Magistrate was read.

MEETINGS IN 1914.

The CHAIRMAN said the next item was most important in that they had to fix days for the 1914 meetings.

Mr. SIMMONDS said that the second Saturday of the month would be most convenient because many of them had to come into Galle on that day. It was resolved that the general meetings be held on the second Saturdays in February, June, and October at 2 p.m., preceded by Committee meetings at 12-30.

ACCOUNTS.

The past year's accounts were tabled, showing a balance to the credit of the Association, after paying all liabilities, of Rs. 100.90.

On the motion of Mr. GRIFFITHS, Rs. 25 was voted to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

MEMBERS FOR PARENT ASSOCIATION.

Messrs. C. Northway and C. G. Simmonds were appointed to attend the meetings of the Parent Association at Kandy.

COCONUT THEFTS.

The following was received in reply to a complaint of repeated stripping of coconuts by thieves and a request for additional police supervision at Elpitiya:—

Galle, September 18th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Galle District P.A.,
Udugama.

SIR,

I have the honour to state that the Superintendent of Police informs me that not a single case of theft of coconuts has been reported to the Elpitiya Police Station, and to enquire whether any explanation of this failure to notify the Police can be given?

I am, Sir, &c.,

R. B. HELLINGS.

It was resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the Chairman.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

The following correspondence regarding Advisory Committee was submitted:—

August 8th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Galle District P.A.

SIR,

With reference to Government notification No. 9 of 16th May, 1913, I have the honour to inform you that the Advisory Committee therein referred to will hold office from the 1st October next, and to request you to move your Association to nominate a representative resident in the Galle district for appointment as a member of the Committee for the Galle district outside the Municipal area.

I am, &c.,

R. B. HELLINGS.

[The Association nominated Mr. M. J. Alderson.]

August 22nd, 1913.

SIR,

With reference to your letter I have the honour to enquire whether Mr. Alderson of Elpitiya is now away from the Island and, if so, when he is expected back?

I am, &c.,

R. B. HELLINGS.

[The Secretary replied that Mr. Alderson would return in November.]

SIR,

September 1st, 1913.

With reference to your letter I have the honour to request you to be good enough to furnish me with another name within a week.

I am, &c.,

R. B. HELLINGS.

[The Association then nominated Mr. A. W. Winter who was appointed.]

HIGH PRICE OF RICE.

The CHAIRMAN next read a letter from the Maskeliya P.A. enclosing the resolution re loss on rice.

It was resolved that the Association support the resolution.

VOTE OF THANKS.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. GRIFFITHS and seconded by Mr. NORTHWAY.

UDAPUSSELLAWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the above Association was held at the District Club Pavilion on Monday, 26th January. Present: Messrs. W. H. Biddulph (Chairman), J. V. Long, J. M. Urquhart, C. J. Owen, A. C. Wilson, V. A. Gordon, E. T. C. Farr, G. F. Deane, Gordon Winus, C. J. Paterson, H. F. Thompson, Raymond Barker, J. Boswell, by proxy John Gordon, and A. Glennie (Hon. Secretary.) Visitors:—Messrs. D. F. Burton and Gordon Prichard.

The notice calling the meeting was read, and the minutes of the last general meeting were read, and confirmed.

Mr. GLENNIE then submitted the accounts for 1913, which had been audited by Mr. W. A. Gordon, and these were passed.

The annual report was then read as follows:—

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1913.

Your Committee begs to report as follows:—

MEMBERSHIP.—All the estates in the district numbering 27 subscribed to the Association in 1913.

MEETINGS.—There were four general meetings during the year, at which there was an average attendance of 17 per meeting, including visitors. The meetings are now held at the District Club Pavilion, instead of at the Resthouse, through the kind invitation of the Udapussellawa Gymkhana Club.

H. E. THE ACTING GOVERNOR'S VISIT.—In May the Association entertained the Acting Governor, now the Hon. Mr. R. E. Stubbs, Colonial Secretary, at the District Club, and this was the first official visit of the Acting Governor to any planting district in the Island. His Excellency was taken over the trace of the St. Margarets-Kirklees New Road, and afterwards a conference was held at Delmar bungalow, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. J. M. Urquhart at which representatives of the Nuwara Eliya District P. A. and our P. A. were present. The principal subject discussed was the question of a reduction of the railway rates on the Udapussellawa line, and His Excellency promised that as soon as it was shown that the line showed a profit, a reduction of the rates at present ruling would be considered. One direct result of the Acting Governor's visit was that this Association availed itself of the suggestion of the Acting P. C. M. O. and invited Dr. Langley Hunt to visit estates in the district with the view of assisting superintendents towards a better condition of the line sanitation on estates. Dr. Langley Hunt's advice was much appreciated by all whom he was able to visit during the ten days he was in the district. He laid special stress upon the necessity for improving the present system of medical supervision by groups of estates engaging fully-qualified medical officers instead of the dispensers now employed who have not the scientific knowledge to enable them to early recognise preventable diseases. This was the most important of his recommendations.

OBITUARY.—The death of Mr. E. E. Nicol deprived the Association of its oldest member and most regular attendant. He took the keenest interest in all that concerned the district, and his death is a great loss to the Association.

THE WEATHER in 1913 was very unfavourable. There were abnormal rains in January, severe gales in the end of May, and June and July, a drought in August and September, and heavy rains and floods early in December, the latter doing an immense amount of damage in the district.

CROP on the whole was short of 1912 which is easily accounted for by the abnormal weather conditions mentioned below.

PRICES seem to have ruled slightly lower in 1913 as compared with the previous year, the real Udapussellawa flavour during Aug-

ust not having asserted itself so much this year, and the reason for this may again be put down to climatic conditions.

PESTS.—No serious cases of pests were reported during the year.

HEALTH.—There was no outbreak of any infectious disease during the year, and the general health of the coolies was good.

TELEPHONES.—The District Telephone Installation, which is on the earth system, was commenced on the 1st April, 1913, and has worked satisfactorily ever since. Government have intimated their intention of considering the question of connecting up our installation with Nuwara Eliya, in their estimates for 1914-1915.

CART-ROAD.—The condition has not been good—a state of affairs which is entirely due to past neglect. It is unfortunate that not long after the new Provincial Engineer and the new District Engineer commenced repairs and had shown in what excellent condition they intend to put the road, the storms of December should have interfered with the even progress of the work. The cyclone of 15th and 16th December was the most damaging in the history of the district, and traffic was interrupted for about three weeks.

BLIND CORNERS.—After much agitation on this Association's part, the P. W. D. has now commenced the cutting back of these.

MINOR ROADS.—The damage done to some of these roads by the rains in December was very great, and considerable extra grants to repair the damage will have to be applied for.

ST. MARGARETS-KIRKLEES CART-ROAD EXTENSION.—It is very gratifying to record that a start has been made in the cutting of this important cart-road, which may eventually be connected up with the Welimada cart-road and thus connect us with Bandarawela. Up to date about two miles of the cutting has been completed (?)

BENEVOLENT FUND AND HATTON NURSING HOME.—These have been well supported by the members of the Association during the year.

LABOUR.—On the whole there appears to have been an increase of coast coolies into the district this year, as compared with 1912. The local Labour Federation has worked well during the year only one estate having refused to join it, and in 1913, fourteen estates in the Nuwara Eliya district P. A. joined our Federation which must be considered very satisfactory, as there is no doubt this combination of estates in the two districts tends to eliminate the restless spirit of the coolies.

HOSPITAL.—The ever recurring grievance as regards the bad and inefficient water supply to the district hospital has again to be recorded. Government can insist on estates having a pure and adequate supply of water for the labour force, and yet cannot see that the supply in their own hospital here is all that it should be.

The hospital visitors report is as follows:—

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL.—The hospital has been visited by us on several occasions during the past year. On all our visits we found everything satisfactory, and the grounds, offices, and wards, clean and in good order, and the food of good quality, and had no complaints from any patients. The officers and attendants were at their duties. The water-supply in the dry weather is still in a most unsatisfactory condition, both as to quality and quantity. This defect has been going on for years past and wants urgent attention, which so far it has not received, in spite of numerous letters and correspondence with the P. C. M. O. Until this fault is remedied it forms a real menace to the health of the patients.

Estate Labourers. Civil Patients.

	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
In patients ...	180	278	328	238
Out patients ...	1,795	1,675	1,429	876
Daily average of in-patients—32.—C. A. JOHNSON and A. GLENNIE, Hospital Visitors.				

January 8th, 1914.

[NOTE.—Since writing the above information has reached us which points to proper action having been taken by Government to supply the hospital with an efficient and sufficient water supply.]

THE LATE MR. NICOL.

In connection with the annual report under the heading of "Obituary," it was proposed by Mr. J. M. URQUHART and seconded by Mr. E. V. LONG:—"That this Association do send a letter of sympathy to the mother, sisters and brother of the late Mr. E. E. Nicol, pointing out that he would be very greatly missed by the Association and District. The resolution was passed, all members standing.

MINOR ROADS.

Another item on the Annual Report under the heading of "Minor Roads" was commented on by Mr. A. C. WILSON, who said that the roads under his charge could not possibly be put in order again, after the damage done by the heavy storms in December, for the yearly amount granted to him by the District Road Committee and suggested that an extra grant be applied for.

Mr. Gordon Windus, Mr. Deane and others also spoke as to the damage done to the roads under their charge, and it was decided that the Chairman, District Road Committee, should be written to regarding an additional grant for all the minor roads in the district.

The Chairman's Review.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the Report, said he was convinced that every member of the district would wish to be associated with an expression of gratitude to the railway authorities for the splendid manner in which they had grappled with all the extraordinary troubles with which they had been confronted during the past year. Whenever slips occurred or a washaway took place that a few years ago would have hung up traffic for days, a breakdown gang would fly at it like hungry wolves at food and devour the trouble almost before Up-country had felt any inconvenience from it. This did not mean, however, that they in the hills could fell free from anxiety; it was a very slender thread of steel that bound them to life, and should any very heavy trouble befall them, for instance on the Kadugannawa Incline, and the traffic had to be carried by an improved wire ropeway, they Up-country might be pardoned for being more than a little uncomfortable at the prospect. Personally he would like to see loop lines laid down connecting, say, Kurunegala with Matale and Kandy with Badulla. At any rate there could surely be no harm in re-considering these old questions. Their population, which was a steadily increasing one, was becoming more and more dependent upon outside sources for food, and the situation was one that to his mind was well worth considering. When our roads are cleared (continued the Chairman) of the damage done by the rains of December we may look forward to a vastly improved condition of affairs with corners well benched back, passing places for motor lorries and improved railway crossings together with a well-barrelled road surface but these improvements must take some time as the state affairs at present is very bad in parts.

VOLUNTEERING.

No mention is made of the Volunteers in the report but that is not for want of interest in this important subject.

The District is to be congratulated upon the fact that the Uda-Pussellawa Detachment of the Rifle Corps was found to be in so good a condition of efficiency that its Commander (Sergeant H. C. Paterson) has been awarded the Farquharson Challenge Cup for 1913. This Cup is not easily won and much credit is due to Sergeant Paterson. There are still some men in this District who ought to be members of either the C.M.R. or C.P.R.C., and they alone can say why it is they do not take their fair share of the burden and do what they can for the defence of their country. As I leave the Chair, gentlemen, I wish to thank you all very cordially for the support you have given me and specially do I thank Mr. Glennie for the loyal and capable manner in which he has always assisted me. My term of office has been a very pleasant one and I hope you will pardon my shortcomings.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

On the motion of Mr. E. V. LONG, seconded by Mr. W. A. GORDON, Mr. J. M. Urquhart was elected to the Chair *pro tem*. He remarked that during Mr. Biddulph's term of office in the Chair it had been a most eventful year for the District, and the thanks of the Association had undoubtedly to be given to Mr. Biddulph for the very strenuous work he had put in on its behalf. Mr. Urquhart pointed out that through Mr. Biddulph's enterprise in worrying Government a start had at last been made in the cutting of the new St. Margaret's-Kirklees cart road, which had hung fire for so many years. (Hear, hear.) Another event had happened during the year and that was that Mr. Biddulph arranged for the Acting-Governor to visit the District in May last, and gave him a good luncheon at the District Club, and then got him in a chair and told him what he thought of him. (Loud laughter). Mr. Biddulph had in very many ways furthered the interests of the district, and he (Mr. Urquhart) thought that their new Chairman would have his work cut out for him in following such an efficient and enterprising Chairman as Mr. Biddulph. He proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Biddulph for his services in the Chair during 1913.

This was carried with acclamation.

Mr. BIDDULPH briefly returned thanks.

Mr. URQUHART then called upon the meeting to elect a Chairman for 1914, and Mr. A. C. WILSON proposed Mr. C. J. OWEN.—This was seconded by Mr. W. A. GORDON, and carried unanimously.

Mr. OWEN, on taking the Chair amidst cheers, said:—Gentlemen, I much appreciate the compliment you pay me in asking me to take the Chair. I do so with many misgivings, especially as I am succeeding so able a Chairman as Mr. Biddulph. However, I can only do my best, and I can assure you I will do this and further the interests of the District to the best of my ability.

Mr. OWEN then proposed Mr. Glennie's re-election as Hon. Secretary.

Mr. GLENNIE said he was sorry he could not take up the Hon. Secretaryship again.

Mr. A. C. WILSON then rose and said he would like to propose a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Glennie for the work he had done for the Association during the last two years, especially in connection with the district telephone installation.

This was seconded by Mr. W. A. GORDON and carried unanimously.

Mr. GLENNIE, in returning thanks, said that his work had been very much lightened in many ways by their late Chairman Mr. Biddulph, to whom his best thanks were due. He had held the Hon. Secretaryship for two years, and thought that some one else should have a chance now.

Mr. W. A. GORDON then proposed Mr. R. T. Thornton as Hon. Secretary for 1914.

This was seconded by Mr. A. GLENNIE, and carried unanimously.

As Mr. Thornton was unable to be present, Mr. Glennie consented to act for him at this meeting.

The following office-bearers for 1914 were then elected:—

KANDY REPRESENTATIVES.—Chairman, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. E. T. C. Farr.

BENEVOLENT FUND REPRESENTATIVES.—Chairman, and Mr. E. T. C. Farr.

HATTON NURSING HOME REPRESENTATIVE.—Mr. C. J. Owen (Chairman).

GENERAL COMMITTEE.—Messrs. J. M. Urquhart, E. V. Long, A. Glennie, W. A. Gordon, E. T. C. Farr, G. F. Deane, Gordon Windus, E. H. Mellor, with the Chairman and Hon. Secretary, ex-officio.

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE.—Messrs. E. V. Long, J. M. Urquhart, A. Glennie, Gordon Windus, and the Chairman and Hon. Secretary, ex-officio.

MINOR ROADS COMMITTEE.—Messrs. E. T. C. Farr, Gordon Windus, G. F. Deane, and Chairman and Hon. Secretary, ex-officio.

STRAYING BUFFALOES.

Mr. A. C. WILSON's resolution, as follows, was then brought before the meeting:—"That the Assistant Government Agent be asked whether some means cannot be devised to prevent buffaloes straying all over estates."

Mr. WILSON said that his principal complaint about buffalo trespass was in connection with a new clearing of his which he had fenced in, but the buffaloes broke through the fences. He took out a licence to shoot buffaloes for one month in November last, and while he held that licence the buffaloes stopped coming into his clearing, but on December, after his licence had expired, they came again, which showed that the villages could, if they wished, and when it was to their own advantage to do so, keep their buffaloes from trespassing. He had recovered a good deal of money as fines for buffalo trespass, but that did not compensate him for the damage done to his new clearing.

Mr. BIDDULPH, Mr. URQUHART and the CHAIRMAN also spoke about this nuisance, and Mr. URQUHART seconded the resolution which was carried "nem con."

It was also decided that a covering letter be sent with the resolution to the Assistant Government Agent, pointing out the facts mentioned by Mr. WILSON.

RAGALLA CHURCH.

It was decided to call a meeting of the residents of the district to consider whether the question of the district church management should in future be left to this Association to deal with, or not.

BADULLA DISTRICT COURT.

Mr. V. F. Edwards' letter with the following resolution, was read:—"That this Association wishes to emphasise the necessity of the six estates at present under the jurisdiction of the Badulla Court being transferred to that of Nuwara Eliya Court, in view of the difficulties of transit."

This resolution reached the Hon. Secretary too late for it to be put on the agenda, and the Chairman ruled that it could not properly be brought up at the present meeting.

A discussion on the resolution was, however, allowed, and it was decided that Mr. Edwards be asked to bring it up at the next meeting, and Mr. W. A. GORDON proposed: "That the Hon. Secretary should write to Government meantime on the subject with the view of obtaining Government's views so that they could be discussed at the next meeting of this Association."

This resolution was discussed and it was carried unanimously.

LOCAL LABOUR FEDERATION.

Read letter from the Nuwara Eliya District P.A. stating that their Association had agreed by 12 votes to 1 to support the Udupussellawa Local Labour Federation, and in addition the following resolution was passed at the Nuwara Eliya P.A. meeting on 6th December, 1913:—"That the Udupussellawa P.A. be asked to extend the Federation to include Dimbula and Badulla P.A.'s."

This resolution was discussed and it was decided that this Association do not support it, as it was thought that a combination of the four districts, viz., Udupussellawa, Nuwara Eliya, Dimbula and Badulla would restrict the freedom of the cooly too much, even if such a combination would be agreed to by Dimbula and Badulla P.A.'s.

Read letters from the Secretary, Parent Association (1) re the annual general meeting taking place in Kandy on the 13th February, and reminding members that subscriptions for 1914 are payable on 1st January, and that members are not allowed to vote unless their subscriptions are paid before the meeting; (2) re the question of whether all persons wishing to become subscribers to the Coast Agency should first be asked to join their District Planters' Association, and that the matter would be brought up at the next general Committee meeting.

It was the unanimous opinion of the meeting that all subscribers to the Coast Agency should first join their District Associations.

The Secretary of the P.A. also wrote enclosing notices in English, Sinhalese and Tamil from the Government Veterinary Surgeon re cattle disease.

It was resolved on the motion of Mr. BIDDULPH, seconded by Mr. W. A. GORDON: "That the Hon. Secretary be instructed to write to the Secretary, Parent Association asking for a liberal supply of these notices and that they be circulated not only to estates, but also to all cattle owners in the district bazaars and villages as far as possible."—Carried unanimously.

LEVEL CROSSINGS.

Read letters from the District Engineer, Nuwara Eliya, of date 2nd December, 1913: (1) *re* level crossings, stating that he would make up the crossings as far as practicable, and that possibly funds might be available "to sett pave several crossings." (2) On the subject of deaf road coolies, asking that planters would kindly write him a note stating the date, time and place when they came across the deaf woman picking up loose metal on the cart road, about which this Association wrote him after their last meeting, stating that he would endeavour to get the woman in question employed in metal breaking only.

Mr. W. A. GORDON then proposed:—"That a special vote of thanks be accorded by this Association to Mr. A. N. Robertson, District Engineer, Nuwara Eliya, for the whole-hearted energy and enthusiasm he has put into his work since he was appointed to this district, and that the sympathy of this Association is heartily given to him on account of the great damage done by the abnormal floods and rains in December, which entails an enormous amount of extra work on his part."

This was seconded by Mr. A. GLENNIE and carried with acclamation.

FORT MACDONALD BRIDGE.

Read letter from the Government Agent, Uva Province, dated 16th January, 1914, as follows:—

BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER AT FORT MACDONALD.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 1st December, 1913, and to inform you that the road is in charge of the Provincial Road Committee, and this body has very heavy calls on its resources owing to flood damages this year, and I can hold out no hope of it being in a position to undertake this work in the near future.

I am, &c.,
F. BARTLETT,
G.A., Uva.

It was decided that this matter should be brought up again at some future date.

CROP ESTIMATE.

The official estimate of crops for 1914, as follows, was laid on the table.

	Tea.	Cardamoms.	Rubber.
Total acreage	12,284	17	7
Acreage in bearing	10,865	17	—
Estimated crop, including bought leaf from native gardens (56,000 lbs.)	5,955,600 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	—
Estimate of green tea in- cluded in above crop	22,7,000 lbs.	—	—

The total yield of tea as per above estimate is 570 lbs. per acre.

A vote of thanks to the Chair proposed by Mr. FARR and seconded by Mr. GLENNIE terminated the meeting.

A. GLENNIE,

Acting Hon. Secretary, Udapussellawa P.A.

HEWAHETA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above Association was held at the Patiyagama Club House on Saturday, the 24th January, at 1-30 p.m., followed by the annual general meeting at 2 p.m., at which the following were present:— Messrs. L. A. Ewart (Chairman and Hon. Secretary), L. St. G. Carey, P. D. Hickman, H. S. Popham, J. S. Armstrong, H. North, G. W. Harris, and W. C. Hawkes, and J. B. Rennie, and G. P. Egan (visitors).

A notice calling the meeting was read by the Hon. Secretary. The annual report of the Committee was then read by the Hon. Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1913.

Your Committee herewith lay before you the annual report for the year ending December, 1913.

THE NUMBER OF ESTATES ON THE REGISTER at the end of the year was 24, being the same as previous year. There have been three general and three Committee meetings, which we regret on the whole have not been well attended.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE ASSOCIATION is satisfactory, showing a balance at credit of Rs. 160-77.

THE OFFICIAL CROP ESTIMATES FOR 1913-1914 are as follows:—

	Tea.	Cocoa.	Cardamoms.	Rubber.	Inter-planted.
Total acreage	14,090	43½	437½	363	1,136
Acreage in bearing	12,299	43½	429½	363	—
			lbs.		
Black tea	5,897,240	nil	29,600	87,650	—
Green tea	325,000	—	—	—	—
Total	6,222,240	—	—	—	—
Estimate from native gardens	212,000	—	—	—	—
Black tea	(500 lbs. per acre odd.)	—	—	—	—

SEASON AND CROPS.—The crops for the year showed a falling off as against previous years, which is chiefly accounted for, by excessive rain and cold winds throughout practically the whole year.

PRICES for the different products tea, cardamoms, etc., have been well maintained.

ROADS for the greater part of the year have been in a disgraceful condition, both as regards the Deltota-Peradeniya road and the Hewaheta-Kandy road. We are glad to report an improvement in the former during the last month of the year. The grant-in-aid roads throughout the district have been kept in fair order.

GENERAL TRANSPORT.—Great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining sufficient transport cattle. The deaths among cart bulls have been abnormal, which can only be attributed to the shocking condition of the roads.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.—The restriction on the Deltota-Peradeniya road of a gross weight of 8½ tons has militated against this form of transport being adopted. It is to be hoped by the Association that the Director of Public Works will see his way to broadening and cutting back corners as soon as possible.

SHOT-HOLE BORER is still prevalent in the district.

HEALTH OF COOLIES.—Ankylostomiasis and infant mortality (under the age of two years) is apparently very much on the increase, vide the Hospital Visitor's report.

LABOUR in the district is generally sufficient for requirements.

HOSPITAL REPORT.—The hospital has been visited several times during the year and everything has been found satisfactory. The number of indoor patients daily on an average during the year were 13 males and 10 females. Outdoor patients daily 6 males and 8 females. The D. M. O. reports a very large increase in the cases treated of Ankylostomiasis. The following are the figures:—98 cases in Hospital in 18 months with 24 deaths; 1,906 cases treated at the dispensary; 780 cases on the estates, and also of infant mortality which he considers is greatly due to lack of attention on the part of the parents, total number of deaths being 581. Of this number 40 per cent. were children under the age of two years and 80 per cent. were of children of 3 months and under. The hospital appeared clean and tidy, no complaints from any of the patients, and the grounds were in good order. The matrons' quarters were nearing completion, and it is hoped that a matron will be appointed at an early date.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—It is a matter of regret that this has not been better supported in the district, and your Committee would urge upon all members the desirability of contributing to this very deserving institution.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES have been further extended and, in the course of a few months, practically the whole of Hewaheta district will be connected up. The main district exchange has continued to give satisfaction.

L. A. EWART,
Chairman.

January 24th, 1914.

The Chairman made some comments on the year's work and vacated the chair. Mr. W. C. HAWKES took the chair *pro tem* and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. HAWKES proposed from the chair that Mr. Carey be elected Chairman for the year.

Mr. CAREY regretted being unable to do so and proposed Mr. HAWKES.

Mr. EWART seconded.—Carried unanimously.

HON. SECRETARY.

The Chairman was asked to act for the time being, and agreed to do so.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.

Messrs. Carey and Hawkes were elected visitors for the year.

KANDY REPRESENTATIVES.

Messrs. Carey and Ewart were elected on the proposal of Mr. NORTH, seconded by Mr. HICKMAN.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

Proposed by Mr. EWART, and seconded by Mr. NORTH, that Mr. Popham be elected as the district representative.—Carried unanimously.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The following were elected:—Messrs. Carey, Williams, Popham, Ewart, North and Hickman.

ROADS.

The district road grants were submitted and passed. The CHAIRMAN proposed that a vote of Rs. 50 be asked for

towards repairs to Gonavy wire bridge as this is used by the tappal runner and by all coolies travelling to the upper districts. The meeting agreed that this should be applied for.

Mr. ARMSTRONG asked if anything had been done with reference to the metalling of the Gonavy-Rahatungoda cart road. A letter was read from the Director of Public Works stating that this matter would be brought up for consideration when the 1914-15 estimates were being prepared.

The HON. SECRETARY was asked to put the matter before the Planting Member in Council and ask him to move in the matter, as, until this road is metaled, it is impossible to use it for heavy carting or motor transport.

BATTA TO WITNESSES IN CROWN CASES.

A resolution was read from the Dimbula Association requesting Government to increase batta Rs. 4.50 to the present hotel rates.

The meeting thoroughly agreed with this resolution, and suggested that the matter be put before the Parent Association.

POLICE GUARD FOR THE UPPER DISTRICT.

The CHAIRMAN brought this matter forward. At present the only police available for the whole of this district, which extends to Haloya at one end and Rockwood at the other, are stationed at Galaha and Padiapellella, and, as drinking is so much on the increase and thefts of plants, etc., are rife, the members of the Upper District think Government should be urged to place a guard at Doraya caddies to serve from Loolecondra to the end of the district. Messrs. Popham and Armstrong spoke on this subject, and the following resolution was proposed and carried unanimously:—"That, owing to the great increase in drinking by the coolies on estates and the assaults and rows resulting therefrom, Government be urged to put a Police guard at Doraya caddies as soon as possible."

CLEARING VEGETATION AT THE CORNERS OF ROADS.

A resolution from the Provincial Road Committee was read and generally supported and a suggestion made that the resolution be sent to the Automobile Club.

LOSS ON RICE.

The resolution from the Maskeliya Association regarding the heavy losses incurred through the abnormal price of rice was heartily supported.

EUROPEAN SUPERVISION OF RECRUITERS AT COAST.

The resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P.A. was read. This matter is now being dealt with by the Coast Agency.

PLANTERS' WARD IN THE KANDY HOSPITAL.

The resolution from the Kandy P.A., was read, and after several members had spoken on the subject Messrs. Carey and Ewart were elected to serve on the Commission now being formed. The Association heartily supported this matter.

WAREHOUSE RENT AT RAILWAY STATIONS.

The Kotmale resolution on this subject was read and supported. The second resolution *re* postal pillar boxes at Railway Stations was discussed, and after one gentleman had remarked about a letter being left in one of these boxes for three months the meeting agreed that a better way would be to ask Government to attach a letter box to the guard's van of every mail train for the convenience of the public.

TELEPHONE AT NEW PERADENIYA STATION

The CHAIRMAN proposed that Government be asked to put a telephone in the New Peradeniya Station to enable people to find out when goods have arrived and so facilitate the removal of same. Practically the whole of the district is or will shortly be connected by telephone and the cost of erection would soon be covered. Mr. Carey, who stated that he had been urging this matter for a long time, was asked to approach Government again on the subject.

EARLY CLOSING OF THE MAILS.

A letter from Mr. Sparling was read, stating that mails at Hewaheta are now closed at 2.45 p.m., which makes it impossible to reply to letters the same day. The short notice given of this change was discussed. So far as this district is concerned nobody was consulted on the matter and it is the opinion of this Association that as the new time is so inconvenient to all using the Hewaheta Post Office the old time of closing be reverted to at once, but this Association consider that the time has arrived for a motor mail service from Kandy to Hewaheta and suggest a Tappal Runner service from Hewaheta to Maturata. This service would serve four Post Offices and could be made available for passengers as well.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

Mr. NORTH spoke on this matter and urged members not already subscribing to do so, pointing out that all deserving cases were assisted and the more money the Fund received the better position it would be in to meet needy calls. The following resolution was proposed by him and seconded by Mr. POPHAM:—"That all members of this Association not at present subscribing be circulated, asking them to do so during the present year both for their estates, Rs. 25, and themselves individually, Rs. 10."—Carried unanimously.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

This matter was discussed. A lorry has been working on the road for the past week, and the rough figures available at present are favourable when compared with parting costs. Cattle transport has been so unsatisfactory during the past year, due to the state of the road to a great extent, that it is most important to get mechanical traction at the earliest possible date. Several members of this Association are only waiting for the road to be passed for a full load to start lorries.

The following papers were passed round:—Notice *re* cattle diseases, subscription list for Agri-Horticultural

Show, copy of letter to proprietors and agents *re* increase in cess, letter *re* Kandy Cemetery.

RESIGNATION FROM THE ASSOCIATION.

Read letter from the Superintendent of Kirimitia Estate, requesting that the name of that estate be taken off the register.—Accepted with regret.

The usual rent of Rs. 50 to the Patiyagama Club and Rs. 5 per month towards a clerk's salary were voted.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

WALTER C. HAWKES,
Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

THE DIMBULA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Dimbula Planters' Association was held on Monday, 26th January, at the Sandy Thomas Memorial Hall, Mr. Hamilton Harding presiding. Others present were:—Messrs. Rodney Mylius, A. C. Chamberlin, W. Morrison, F. R. Smethurst, J. H. Thomas, L. Cox Scott, J. W. Ferguson, A. Armitage, J. H. C. Ogilvy, D. J. Maitland, J. E. Baillie Hamilton, G. D. Brown, F. C. Smith, Dr. F. N. Smartt, Messrs. G. C. Bliss, H. M. McLeod, J. Oeffner, A. Sydney Smith, E. E. Megget, W. Wilson Smith, and Huntley Wilkinson (Secretary.)

CONDOLENCE.

Before the business of the meeting began, the CHAIRMAN said it was their unfortunate duty to express regret at the death of Mr. A. H. Roe of Rositta group, Kotiyagala.

A vote of condolence was passed, all standing.

APOLOGIES.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. F. de Buckle, Oswald, F. H. Layard, A. M. Cooper, and McBride (D.E.)

Two letters were also announced from the Rev. E. Le-Feuvre and Mr. McBride acknowledging thanks for election as hon. members of the Association.

CROP ESTIMATE.

The HON. SECRETARY announced the receipt of figures with regard to the above showing that the total acreage was 45,425 in bearing; 50,714 total acreage; estimated crop 25,984.200 lbs., and the average yield per acre 572 lbs. (Applause.)

LABOUR FEDERATION.

A letter on the above subject from the Uda Pussellawa Association was read, and the following resolution, agreed to in Committee was moved by Mr. MEGGET:—"That the Hon. Secretary do circulate members of this Association quoting the rule giving the percentage of estates in Uda Pussellawa and Nuwara Eliya that have already joined and inviting members to join conditional on 75 per cent. of estates in the district joining. That the Chairman of the Uda Pussellawa Association be informed as to what is being done."

The letter was not available for publication.

Mr. MEGGET said there was little to be said as the point was an obvious one. The resolution would clear up as to whether the Association would like to go on with it.

Mr. ARMITAGE seconded, and the resolution was carried by 5 to 3.

The CHAIRMAN asked for a more representative vote, and the motion was agreed to by 11 votes to 4.

MINOR ROADS REPORTS.

The HON. SECRETARY said at the beginning of the year a Minor Roads Committee was appointed, and reports regarding the roads had been received from Messrs. D. J. Maitland (Wallaha road), J. E. Baillie Hamilton (Gorge Valley), E. H. Walter, J. E. Tull, and A. L. Gibson (sections of the Lindula-Agras road.) These were read out.

The CHAIRMAN said their thanks were due to these members for the trouble they had taken. He explained at last year there had been a series of troubles regarding these roads, and they thought it advisable to appoint certain members to see if their money was being spent in the right way or otherwise. Later he said he would like to ask the members concerned if they had any objection to the reports being published in the press.

Mr. BAILLIE HAMILTON said his was not for publication.

Mr. MAITLAND said he had no objection.

Mr. BLISS suggested that portions only be quoted to the E. or the D. E., and it was agreed that they be not published.

On the subject of the Dimbula-Talawakele road the CHAIRMAN said the steam-roller had been kept in this district for the last two months, and the Glenlyon-Preston road was therefore only about three-quarter completed. He had represented the matter to Government, and another steam-roller would be given them almost immediately. (Applause.)

THE GOODS SHED ROAD.

A letter dated December 12th, 1912, was read from the Engineer of the Way and Works Department announcing that the necessary repairs to the goods shed road had been effected.

The CHAIRMAN stated that they had had a good deal of trouble in connection with this road and he was glad to see they had at last succeeded. In addition to interviews with the General Manager, he also had had interviews with the Way and Works Engineers and the P.W.D. The question now was to maintain it.

THE D. E.'s WORK.

The CHAIRMAN said there had been a great many complaints from different people in the district with regard to the upkeep of the roads. He had obtained official data as to the roads looked after by their District Engineer, which worked out at 92.43 miles. The district extended from the far end of Dolosbage and Nuwara Eliya. Some years ago a change was made and the D. E. at Nuwara Eliya covered part of the district, but he thought all would agree that their District Engineer had a very large stretch of

road to look after. With a view to getting some of the works in the district done, now the motor lorry service had been inaugurated, he had represented matters to headquarters and he understood that a part of the D. E.'s roads were to be taken away from him at some future date. (Hear, hear.)

THANKS TO THE G. M. R.

In reply to the Association's thanks for his work in clearing the line after the recent floods the following was read from the G. M. R.:—

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office,
Colombo, December 1st, 1913.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter of the 26th November. The assistance rendered by labour kindly supplied by the local planters very largely contributed to the clearing of the line.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

The CHAIRMAN expressed pleasure at Mr. Greene's recognition of the planters' services.

DAMAGE BY THE RECENT FLOODS.

The HON. SECRETARY stated that he had sent out circulars to collect particulars as to the damage caused by the recent floods. He had not yet received the complete figures, but the total to date was something like Rs. 68,000, and it would be something like Rs. 75,000 when they got all the figures in. All this damage was caused by one flood, without taking into consideration the acres of tea that were washed away.

The CHAIRMAN said he would like to explain that the figures sent in would be treated as private information. The information was wanted because the total damage was to be laid before Government with a view to getting some grants for the re-building of their bridges washed away in the December flood. He would be much obliged if everybody would fill up the form and send it before the end of the month.

Mr. BAILLIE-HAMILTON asked if any damage had been put down for the Radella Club.

The CHAIRMAN.—No, sir.

Mr. BAILLIE-HAMILTON said he understood some Rs. 12,000 damage had been caused and that it would cost at least Rs. 200 to clear the racecourse.

Mr. MEGGET said the same thing might apply to the Agras.

The HON. SECRETARY said he was afraid he had omitted to send forms to these Clubs, but the Secretaries were planters.

Mr. MEGGET also suggested that the engineering firms such as the Talawakelle Engineering Company and Messrs. Walker and Greig should be approached regarding the damage, and this was agreed to.

THE DISTRICT EUROPEAN DOCTOR SCHEME.

The CHAIRMAN said they would remember that a joint European doctor scheme with Dikoya was brought forward and that a joint Committee of Dimbula and Dikoya members were to discuss Dr. Smartt's letter. No meeting had taken place owing to the Dikoya members being unable to call a meeting just yet. According to the papers they were to have a meeting on the 29th, after which he expected they would appoint a Committee.

THE DOCTOR'S BUNGALOW.

The CHAIRMAN said he had great pleasure in announcing to the meeting that the support accorded to the doctor's bungalow scheme was 75.80 per cent, without those not pledging to commit themselves, but with every possibility of their doing so within a month or so, which would swell the percentage to probably 80 per cent. The amount collected, or promised including Pundaloya was Rs. 14,970, and he hoped that those who were wavering at the present time would send in their names as soon as possible. At a sub-Committee held just prior to that meeting it was strongly urged that a commencement with the doctor's bungalow should be made. They would see from the annual report that a sum of Rs. 13,688 was put down as the amount practically in hand. He must point out that this money was not actually in hand, but it would be when the promises made were all put in. The total acreage they had discovered contained an error. The acreage in Dimbula was 45,424 cultivated, and in Pundaloya 3,232, and a matter of some 37 or 38,000 acres had promised subscriptions towards the scheme. He hoped that everybody would see their way to do so. The matter had taken an immense amount of time, and had cost a good deal of money. The sub-Committee had suggested that a start should be made, and he now brought it forward for confirmation.

The resolution was then carried.

THE ABSENCE OF THE D. M. O.

Correspondence on this matter was read as follows:—
26/27th November, 1913.

THE HON. THE PRINCIPAL CIVIL MEDICAL OFFICER,
Colombo.

SIR,

In answer to your letter No. 10,913 of the 31st of October I have the honour to bring to your notice the following resolution unanimously supported at our meeting on the 24th instant, and would ask you to be so kind as to see whether some definite arrangement cannot be made to help us. I would also be glad to hear from you that this Association will be informed when there is to be no officer present at his post; the resolution in question was "That in the matter of the periodical removal of the Agras D.M.O. from his post this Association considers the explanation made by the Medical Department to be most unsatisfactory. While realising that it must at times be necessary that a D.M.O. should be absent to give evidence in a Court case, we must enter a strong protest against the Agras D.M.O. being taken away to fill the place of other officers. It is an additional inconvenience that no notice is given when the district is to be left without a medical officer."

I am Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
HUNTLEY WILKINSON,
Hon. Secretary, Dimbula, P.A.

Colombo, December 5th, 1913.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26/27 November, 1913, and to inform you that I have instructed the Provincial Surgeon, C.P., to inform you when the District Medical Officer, Agrapatna, will be absent from his district.

2. With reference to the medical officer, Agrapatna, being sent to act at Lindula and Dimbula when the District Medical Officers of those stations are unavoidably absent, I consider it more important to have a medical officer at a station where a hospital is situated than where there is none.

I am Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
G. J. RUTHERFORD,
Acting P.C.M.O and I.G.H.

The CHAIRMAN said this matter was brought up in Committee, and it was decided that the Secretary should write to the P.C.M.O. and urge that if the Officer in Agrapatna was to be withdrawn, he should be given say a motor cycle in order to make him more mobile.

The SECRETARY said the D.M.O. was away on December 22nd, and he had notice to that effect, which was sent round by telephone.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

It was announced that Mr. Shelley had collected Rs. 205, and that most of the Agras collections had been sent in direct.

FREIGHT ON PLUCKING BASKETS.

The HON. SECRETARY announced that the Parent Association had taken this matter up.

The CHAIRMAN said he saw the General Manager on the matter, and he had said the matter was being taken up in Kandy.

KOTMALE AND POSTAL PILLAR BOXES.

The following letter was read from the Kotmale P.A., which explains itself:—

Tyspane, Kotmale,
December 1st, 1913.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your letter of 26th/27th November.

I regret your Association does not see its way to support the resolution re postal pillar boxes at railway stations in view of the fact that letters can be posted on the train being no convenience, as a passenger travelling to Colombo from Bandarawella may want to post a letter back to Bandarawella at the first halting station. He would not of course post a letter on the train by which he is travelling.

Yours faithfully,
J. S. RICHARDSON,
Hon. Secretary,
Kotmale, P. A.

Smiles greeted the somewhat witty reply, but nothing further was done.

DELAYED MAILS.

With regard to the Association's complaints re the delay in sending out the mail coach from Talawakelle the following letter was read:—

Office of the Postmaster-General and
Director of Telegraphs, General Post
Office, Colombo, December 5th, 1913

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 18th November, I have the honour to inform you that the Postmaster, Talawakelle, reports that

ils for Lindula and Agrapatna are despatched by coach half-an-hour after the arrival of the night mail train at Talawakelle.

2. The travelling post office makes up mails on board the train, forward letters from stations between Gampola and Talawakelle have to be sorted and included, hence the interval of half-hour en up at Talawakelle.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
C. ABEYWARDENE,
for Postmaster-General.

Mr. MAITLAND said he was there at 8-15 one day and the coach was still waiting.

The CHAIRMAN said that if any member could bring a case in point they could again bring the matter before the Postmaster-General.

Mr. MEGGET said if Mr. Maitland could give the date and the time the train came in this would constitute a specific case.

Mr. MAITLAND said he would give the Secretary the details after the meeting.

THE COAST AGENCY.

Certain matters regarding the above and the Estate Agents Association having been dealt with in Committee, the following letter was read:—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, January 16th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

I am directed to inform you that the question whether all persons wishing to become subscribers to the Coast Agency should first be asked to join their district Planters' Association, will be brought up at the next meeting of the Planters' Association general Committee.

From time to time I have applications from people claiming to be planters wishing to join the Coast Agency and in some cases I know nothing about them, not even whether they do actually possess any property. If these were to join their District Planters' Associations in the first instance there would perhaps be less likelihood of advantage being taken by unsuitable people of the Ceylon Labour Commissioner's organisation.

I am Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

Mr. MYLIUS having expressed an opinion on the matter, Mr. BLISS said he took it that the members approved of it.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

NUWARA ELIYA HORSE SHOW.

An announcement regarding the Nuwara Eliya Agricultural and Horse Show, with subscription list, was sent round the table.

BATTA FOR WITNESSES.

On this matter, which was submitted to the P.A. the Secretary wrote that at a Committee meeting on January 9th, the meeting decided that the Hon. the Acting Rural Member be asked to enquire regarding this subject. The Chillaw and UdaPussellawa P.A.'s also supported Dimbula's resolution.

TRUSTEES OF DISTRICT PROPERTY.

On this subject the Secretary of the Parent P.A. wrote that at a Committee meeting on the 9th instant, it was de-

cided that a sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. H. A. Beachcroft, G. C. Bliss, the Chairman, and the Secretary, P.A., do enquire into the matter and report.

THE P. A. MEETING.

The Secretary, Planters' Association, wrote reminding members that the annual meeting was to be held on February 13th, and that subscriptions had to be paid on January 1st to entitle a member to vote.

KANDY CEMETERIES.

Mr. R. MYLIUS drew the attention of the meeting towards Mr. Shand's efforts to secure attention to the graves at the Kandy cemeteries and appealed to all to subscribe for the attention to a place where many old soldiers, naval men and planters were buried. He paid a high tribute to the work of Mr. Shand in this connection. A subscription list was passed round, and a number of members entered their names thereon.

The CHAIRMAN also backed up the appeal.

Mr. MCLEOD asked if more money was collected than was required if some could not be spent on the graves at Diyatalawa.

The CHAIRMAN thought the suggestion a good one, and a note was made of it.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual report and various hospital reports were as follows, the whole being got up into a neat little booklet:—

MEMBERSHIP.—Estate voters 105. Honorary members 8. Total 108.

MEETINGS.—Four general meetings and four Committee meetings were held during the year, the attendance averaging 34 and 17 respectively against 29 and 16 in 1912.

ACREAGE.—The acreages in tea in bearing, and the total acreages together with the estimated crop for 1914 have been collected quite recently and are as follows:—Acreage in bearing 45,424. Total acreage 50,714. Estimated crop 25,984,200. The average yield per acre works out at 572 lbs.

TEA CROP AND PRICES.—Tea throughout the district presents an exceptionally healthy and vigorous appearance. Dimbula and other up-country teas have not benefitted to the same extent from the strong market as have low-country and medium elevation teas.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.—The rainfall on Balgravia for the year was 115.95 ins. against a six years' average of 97.62 ins. As compared with last year the months of January, April, and October were exceedingly wet, but the rainfall in June was much less than usual. Due to a cyclonic disturbance on the East and South-East coasts on the 16th December an unprecedented flood occurred. Every estate bridge between Diyagama and Talawakelle was washed away. Many cooly lines and factories were swamped. The main roads were awash in many places notably between Portmore and the Agra Post Office, the Glenlyon bridge and Balmoral cricket ground, near the Lindula Post Office, and by the Henfold factory. There was a serious and large subsidence of earth near Macduff. At the Henfold factory there was a breach 12 to 18 feet wide and 12 feet deep which was temporarily filled in with firewood. The railway department deservedly gained the thanks of this Association for the splendid way in which floods and washaway difficulties were handled.

OBITUARY.—We regret to have to record the deaths of Messrs. J. E. A. Dick-Lauder, E. Rice Wiggin, G. V. L. Scott, and A. H. Roe.

FINANCE.—The volume of expenditure has been increased this year by motor lorry transport, mortality and birth returns, and cattle diseases.

TELEPHONES.—During the year the three exchanges were linked up by Government. Our system was the first to be installed up-country and has drawbacks incidental to the want of previous data. Live tree supports have proved unsatisfactory, the earth circuit system makes clear working impossible and there are many dry joints and contacts which cause trouble. The Telephone Committee are going into the question of general improvements, especially alteration to a metallic circuit and their report will show what the cost of putting the installation into thorough working order will be; but for all this the telephones have proved most useful to subscribers.

ROADS.—With reference to frequent changes of District Engineers, your Committee must again express their opinion that this does not conduce to either efficiency or economy. We are glad to be able to report that a second steam-roller will be brought into use in the district early next year. The road connecting Dimbula and Pundaloya should be open to traffic during the first half of next year. Other road connections are being considered.

DISTRICT MINOR ROADS.—The grant this year from the District Road Committee was Rs. 1,229.98. This was all allotted and an extra grant was allowed upon the Palmerston-Ritnakeria Road which has lately been widened for Cart Traffic from the Great Western Cart Road as far as the Palmerston bungalow.

RICE.—The average rates ruling throughout the year have been abnormally high; and generally speaking estates throughout the district must have sustained heavy losses. Your Committee records with satisfaction that the question of coolies' food stuff rates is having the serious attention of the (Parent) Association and of the Chamber of Commerce.

LABOUR.—Labour in this district has been rather more plentiful due largely to increased efforts in the direction of Coast recruiting. Early in October the new Proprietors' Federation Rules came into force and the scheme is generally supported by Proprietors in the District; it is too soon to judge as to the utility and efficiency of these regulations, but if they are modified as, and when, experience proves necessary, your Committee are confident that good will result both to employer and labourer. Your Committee would draw the attention of members to the circular recently issued by the Federation Committee inviting suggestions.

TRANSPORT.—The "Three Ton per Axle" type of lorry has now been sanctioned on the road from Talawakelle to Diyagama. The Ceylon Tea Plantations Company have introduced their Lacre Lorry and already the work it has done has helped to relieve the congestion at Talawakelle which became very serious owing to the break-downs upon the railway due to the abnormal rains in the latter part of the year, to the several outbreaks of cattle disease and to the unsatisfactory condition of Cart Transport. Transport conditions in the District in general have been particularly unsatisfactory causing great inconvenience and loss to estates; carting rates were considerably increased during 1912 and again in the current year Government have now agreed to pay their moiety to the necessary improvements to the Lindula-Agra Road to make it suitable for motor lorry traffic.

CATTLE DISEASES.—There have been outbreaks of surra and rinderpest during the year which were promptly and most efficiently dealt with by the Assistant Government Agent to whom the thanks of this Association are due. The prompt and drastic action taken by the authorities in connection with these outbreaks resulted in a marked decrease in Mortality as compared with previous ones.

GENERAL PURPOSES FUND.—This fund was drawn upon to pay off the long-standing deficit upon the Hall Extension Account: and a smaller deficit than last year upon the Hall Standing Account and also for the Rs. 150 voted at the last annual meeting to the retiring Honorary Secretary, Mr. A. T. Sydney Smith.

DEEDS.—The question of the continual changes of trustees of district property owing to deaths and retirements and the resulting legal expenses has been gone into this year and the Parent Association has been asked to take the matter up.

HOSPITAL REPORTS.—The agitation which has been going on for the last 10 years or so for an additional female general ward for

the Lindula Hospital has at last borne fruit. Estimates have been prepared and it is hoped that 1914 will see the new Ward in use. Attention is called to the visitors report on the Agra Patna dispensary.

EUROPEAN DOCTOR SCHEME.—Dr. F. N. Smartt took up duties in the district early in March and support to the retaining fee system has been exceedingly good as will be seen from the accounts. The doctor's bungalow was found to be uninhabitable and the Committee controlling the district European doctor scheme had no option but to recommend that a new bungalow be built. The circular which will be found upon another page of this report will show how it has been proposed to raise the money required. The support to date in Dimbula is over 75 per cent. of the acreage in bearing. Satisfactory support has also been promised from Pundaloya.

CHAPLAINCY.—The Association desires to place on record its thanks to the Lord Bishop of Colombo and the other ministers who assisted in taking Church services in the district during the absence of the Chaplain on leave and until his successor was appointed. The Rev. Arthur LeFeuvre entered upon his duties early in October. The parsonage had a considerable amount spent upon it before the new Chaplain was installed. This was partly paid by rents and the balance was met out of stipend funds.

MATERNITY NURSING SCHEME.—The example set in the Agra has been followed in mid-Dimbula with great success and the services of the nurses sent to the district by the P.C.M.O have been much appreciated by the labour forces of estates which have employed them. The Superintendents of estates which have not as yet actually availed themselves of their services are urged to do so now.

EXCISE.—The district has been honoured by the appointment of its Chairman on the Advisory Board of the Excise Committee in the Province. The establishment of these Boards is felt to be a good and thoughtful move on the part of Government.

VOLUNTEERING.—The C. M. R. held a "Troop Camp" in November when the maxim gun course was fired and the troop was inspected by the Commandant. Interesting and useful signalling work was done during the year in conjunction with the C.P.R.C.

C. P. R. C.—During the year the Dickoya detachments (Durawella, Bogawantalawa and Maskeliya) were added to the strength of "C" Company. In conjunction with "D" Company a Camp was held upon the Moon Plains at Easter. During the year there were two field days at Mattakelle, at one of which the Commandant made his annual inspection of the Company. Interesting and instructive work was done, but with the many counter attractions in the district such as cricket and football matches and meets of other kinds, Camps and field days are arranged under difficulties. Signalling instructors visited the district monthly and a good deal of keenness was shown in this work. The annual musketry course shows a considerable improvement in marksmanship. Keenness and efficiency is on the increase.

PESTS.—The district has been singularly free from Pests, with the exception of Oxalis Violacea, which still requires the close attention of Superintendents.

SANDYS THOMAS MEMORIAL HALL.—The Revenue earned by this building during the current year has been better than in former years. It was nearer being self-supporting as will be seen by the accounts. It has been suggested that a panel should be placed in the hall recording the names of past Chairman and Honorary Members of the Association.

REPORT ON KOTAGALA HOSPITAL.

VISITED.—December 2nd, 1913.

DRUGS.—Sufficient drugs of all kinds have been kept in stock throughout the year. An unnecessary bit of red tape has recently been revived by order of the Provincial Surgeon, viz.: the necessity of sending cash with order when getting drugs for use on estate. This causes inconvenience to estate Superintendents and I should think also gives the D.M.O. a great deal of unnecessary trouble. The old method of paying for the drugs quarterly with other hospital expenses does not seem to have anything against it.

PATIENTS.—The diseases treated in hospital during 1918 to 17th ember are as per list below. There were no complaints. re is accommodation for 86 always, but 46 (the largest number at time during 1918) have been accommodated for. This can be without overcrowding to an uncomfortable extent. BUILDINGS are all in good order. Kitchen and operating room fly-proof. The food is good. The surroundings of the hospital clean and well kept and reflect great credit on Dr. Ludovici and predecessor, Dr. Keyt.

A. E. WALFORD and D. F. DE C. BUCKLE.

9th December, 1918.

VARIOUS KINDS OF DISEASES	TREATED	UP TO	DATE, 1918.
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	58
Fevers	26
Veneral Diseases	41
Worms and Anchylostomiasis	115
Lung Diseases	20
Digestive Diseases	19
Skin	35
Injuries	38
Poisons	1
All other General Diseases	167
Total	520

Dimbula, 6th December, 1918.

REPORT ON LINDULA HOSPITAL, 1918.

VISITS.—During the year, on our visits to hospital, we found everything in good order and quite satisfactory.

DRUGS.—A supply sufficient for requirements is always kept in stock.

PATIENTS.—The total number of patients treated in hospital for year, 1st December, 1912, to 30th November, 1913, was 863, of which 719 were estate labourers. Deaths numbered 117, 106 being estate labourers. The principal causes of death were in order:—

DIARRHOEA, DYSENTERY, ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS.—The percentage deaths to total admissions is 13.55 against 13.37 in 1912, which is the lowest percentage we could find recorded. The number of cases of Anchylostomiasis treated in hospital was 123: deaths from disease numbered 17. These figures vary very little from the figures of 1912 and there appears to be no increase in the disease in its part of the district. 3,108 estate labourers were treated at the dispensary, and 1,710 visits were paid to estates.

BUILDINGS AND SURROUNDINGS are all clean and well kept. Covered passages between Administration Block and Wards, and Female Wards and Nurses' Quarters have been completed. We think it most important that a covered passage should be put up to connect the Operating Theatre with the Wards. The fly-proof protection for kitchen and latrines has been sanctioned, but the work has not been taken in hand yet. The shingles on roof of Diarrhoea ward are in bad order; this roof should have attention. No tar was applied to the road passing the hospital this year, and as the dust in dry weather is very bad, we think it would be advisable to have applied yearly, in January, for about 200 yards of the road on her side of the hospital.

ACCOMMODATION.—We understand plans are being prepared for new Female Ward, but the site for this Ward which has been selected above the cart road does not appear to us a very suitable one for the efficient administration of the hospital, as it is so far removed from the other main Wards. When this Ward is completed, accommodation should be sufficient for present requirements. The present accommodation for the staff of assistants is insufficient.

Steward having been recently appointed. The quarters provided for the Visiting Apothecary and Apothecary are very limited, and there is no accommodation for the Steward.

H. D. McMILLAN, and J. H. C. OGILVY, Unofficial Hospital Visitors.

REPORTS ON THE NANU-OYA DISPENSARY.

VISITED.—November 12th, 1913, 8 a.m.

The Apothecary-in-charge was in the Dispensary at the time of my visit and gave me all the information I required.

DRUGS.—All the necessary medicines appear to be in stock. Fresh drugs are on order, so no shortage should occur.

PATIENTS.—1,424 estate coolies and 387 civil patients have been treated during the period January-November. 210 visits to estates have been paid during the same period. At the time of my visit no patients were awaiting treatment.

BUILDING is in good order and quite clean. Alterations to the drainage system have been carried out. The system now appears to meet with all the requirements of modern sanitation. The garden and surroundings leave much to be desired, being a mass of weeds. The present Apothecary has only been in charge for a short time; so I do not think the fault lies with him. I have asked him to attend to the matter.

JAMES FORBES, Visitor to Nanu-Oya Dispensary.

VISITED.—March 4th, 1913, 9 a.m. The Apothecary in charge was in the Dispensary, and gave me such information as I needed.

PATIENTS.—There were three patients awaiting treatment. No complaints. During year 1912, 1,855 patients (1,694 estate coolies and 161 Government employees) received outdoor treatment. Visits to estates were paid on 116 occasions.

DRUGS.—I am informed that the present supply of drugs is sufficient for the first half of the year.

BUILDING is in good order. Surroundings leave much to be desired. Alterations to drainage system at the back of the building are badly needed. Some time ago a new drain which was needed to carry off the flow of waste water, &c., was constructed, but was not properly linked to the existing system, with the result that the waste still flows into a hole in the ground quite close to the building.

W. POYNTEZ SPURWAY, Visitor to Nanu-Oya Dispensary.

[The latter is the report for 1912 which came to hand too late to be embodied in the 1912 annual report.]

REPORT UPON THE AGRAPATNA DISPENSARY.

VISITS.—I visited the Agrapatna Dispensary at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, the 3rd December, 1913, and was met and shown round by Dr. V. A. Goonetilleke, the D.M.O.

DRUGS appeared to be sufficient for all requirements. I was under the impression that all hospitals and dispensaries were to be supplied with Emetine; none has been sent here so far.

VISITS.—The 3rd December, 1913 and was met and shown round by Dr. V. A. Goonetilleke, the D.M.O.

PATIENTS.—2,987 have received treatment to date this year.

BUILDINGS.—The buildings are all in bad repair; the walls are rotten, also the wooden floorings and supports underneath; two planks in the dispensary floor have given way; the roof was also leaking. The dispenser's latrine is a cesspool, a disgrace to any dispensary. A consulting room is urgently required; there is no room at this dispensary where patients can be privately examined and attended to; there is only an open verandah; a portion of this could be closed in at quite a small expense.—A. L. SCOTT, Visitor to Agrapatna dispensary.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

In moving the adoption of the report the Chairman gave a review of the year's work in the course of which he said:—

CLIMATE CONDITIONS.

The floods of October and December coming one upon the other so quickly have caused a great deal of wash on estates, which is noticeable from the amount of silt in the rivers and in the oyas. It was fortunate that the rain in December did not last longer than it did on more gigantic

damage would have been caused, and had the storm taken place at night the loss of life would have been considerable.

FINANCE.

You will notice from the accounts, which have been in your hands for some days, that there has been a loss of Rs. 27.14 in the working account. You will understand how this comes about when I point out that the clerk's salary is Rs. 136 over that of 1912, and the stationery account Rs. 109.91 in excess of 1912. These increases are chiefly due to the extra work thrown on our Secretary, who has been allowed extra money for his clerk and to the printing and distributing of the birth and death returns for 1911 and 1912 to all the members of the Association, also to the distribution of Cattle Disease notices from time to time. Turning to the Dimbula Hall working account you will notice that there has been a loss of Rs. 155.15, which is to be regretted. This amount has had to be received out of the General Purposes Fund. It seems a pity that some means cannot be revised whereby the Dimbula Hall can be run at a profit and not at a loss every year. It is satisfactory to note, however, that the loss in 1913 is Rs. 101.79 less than it was in 1912. With regard to the Dimbula Hall Extension account you will observe that a debit balance of Rs. 93.64 was brought forward from 1912. We have thought it advisable to wipe off this amount by drawing on the General Purposes Fund. Referring to the General Purposes Fund account it will be seen that the balance in capital account under this heading is Rs. 471.35 only, which is a very small sum and I hope that everybody will subscribe to this fund, which is Rs. 10 per annum or less than Re. 1 a month. I do not think there is anything for me to mention under the European Doctor Scheme accounts, as they seem to be clear. Turning to the Doctor's New Bungalow account it will be observed that we had to pay out Rs. 300 for the rent of the bungalow, which the Doctor has occupied for $7\frac{1}{2}$ months in 1913. We erected the telephone to the bungalow in question as it was considered essential for the convenience of the doctor and his patients. There has been an immense amount of work in connection with the matter of the new bungalow besides a good deal of expenditure for stationery and printing. It will be seen that we have received some subscriptions already and that a considerable sum has been promised and that the balance in hand when paid stood at Rs. 13,688.96 at 31st December last towards the building of the Doctor's New Bungalow, which is to cost Rs. 1,411.13 exclusive of furniture, etc. We have therefore money now promised sufficient to proceed with the work. Under Dimbula Chaplaincy Fund it will be seen that Rs. 300 was allotted for the upkeep of the Parsonage in the future. Turning to the working accounts Rs. 280 was received for rent during the absence of Mr. Purton, and until Mr. LeFeuvre arrived. It will be noted that Rs. 338.66 was spent on the Parsonage in various ways prior to Mr. LeFeuvre's arrival and that the furnishings of the parsonage cost Rs. 326.99, so that it will be seen that a considerable sum has been spent to keep the Parsonage in good order. It is now in first rate order.

TELEPHONES.

Although the telephone in the district has proved of great utility, it will be much more useful when linked up with the trunk line, which cannot be done apparently till 1915, before which time it will be necessary for us to put in a metallic circuit in the district.

ROADS.

I sincerely trust that the P.W.D. will retain the present D. E. in Dimbula and that no change will be made for some time; and it is to be hoped that our roads will be more carefully maintained during 1914, now that motor lorry traffic is being rapidly introduced. It is anticipated that at least four lorries will be working within the first half-year. The wearing down of the wheel tracks is already noticeable in some parts of the main road. The Railway Gorge Road has suffered considerably from the floods in two places, and it is to be hoped that the P.W.D. will realise the importance of getting these two bad slips put in order as early as possible. Until another steam-roller has been introduced it will be impossible for the D. E. to maintain his roads in the condition which is imperative for the increasing transport of the district. There is a fair prospect that the D. E. is to be relieved of some of the road which he has hitherto controlled and which is too far away from Dimbula; and this should tend to greater efficiency in the carrying out of the work in this district during 1914. With regard to the Watagoda Talawakelle Road connection, this, I understand, is well in hand but will not be completed much before the second quarter of the current year.

DISTRICT MINOR ROADS.

Minor roads have suffered considerably by the flood and more especially the bridges thereon, which were all carried away. There seems to be little doubt that Minor Road which run through uncultivated land should be maintained from District Minor Road grants, and that no estate should be called upon to bear any expenditure thereon as hitherto. Owing to this, the Bopatalawa road connecting Dimbula with the top end of Bogawantalawa has been allowed to go into disrepair of late years. The road is soon being put in hand, and it is intended that this road should be properly maintained in the future, being a most useful one linking up the two districts.

RICE.

The loss of rice has been rather a serious matter of late years, more especially in the year under review. It is to be hoped that the sub-Committee appointed to inquire in the whole question will decide on some practical scheme whereby healthy competition among rice-dealers can be encouraged, and that some practical suggestion can be made whereby other foods and materials can be grown which will enable the quantity of rice issued to each individual cooly to be reduced, and yet permit of the labourer being just as well, if not better, nourished.

LABOUR.

I sincerely hope that everybody in the District will continue their efforts in the direction of recruiting on the coast.

d as far as is practicable not take on each other's coolies in the district. With the opening of the Indo-Ceylon Railway in February, 1914, the facilities for recruiting will be considerably enhanced, and I therefore exhort every Superintendent who has the welfare of his estate at heart to maintain his labour force in a good state of health, which means greater efficiency in the carrying out of their work on estates. The Proprietors' Labour Federation having come into force, should like the estates who have joined the scheme to give a fair trial and to bring any weak points in the rules to the notice of their respective employers. It is hoped this Federation will tend to make the conditions of labour better throughout the Colony.

TRANSPORT.

This matter has been causing a great deal of anxiety during the year and has also proved more costly than hitherto. Motor lorries are being gradually introduced and it is hoped that they will solve the difficulties of transport in the year 1914. The chief cart contractors in the district definitely refused to put Motor Lorries on the main road. It came imperative that other arrangements should be made. The C. T. P. Co. have put a lorry on the road to serve their estates, and the Talawakelle Engineering Works are putting three or more almost immediately. There should be at least 4 lorries on the main road before June, 1914.

CATTLE DISEASES.

The cattle diseases have been well grappled with during the year under review, and our best thanks are due to the Government officials for the promptitude with which they tackled every serious outbreak.

GENERAL PURPOSES FUND.

I would like to say that I look upon this Fund as a most important one for the general maintenance of all the district buildings. The proprietors of estates have built good permanent buildings in the past, but there is still the European Doctor's bungalow to be built, and although this latter will be maintained by our doctor when put on a permanent footing, this does not apply in the case of the churches, the parsonage and the Sandys Thomas Memorial Hall, and therefore I would ask all members of the Association to subscribe to this useful Fund so that, when any repairs are necessary to the district buildings, we shall have money in hand and thereby shall not have to ask the proprietors of estates for any additional funds, but look upon it as our duty to see that all buildings are kept in good repair.

DEEDS.

The matter of having district property deeds to be held in trust by the office-bearers of the Association instead of individual persons as at present has been referred to the Parent Association in Kandy to handle and to make the fullest inquiries as to how this business can be successfully grappled with as it is a question which affects all Associations in the Island and is therefore of general interest.

HOSPITAL REPORTS.

I should like to see a little more notice taken by Government of the reports made by competent gentlemen of the planting community on the working and general condition

of our hospitals and dispensaries. I would draw particular attention to the very unhealthy conditions prevailing at the Agrapatna Dispensary. The visitor of this Dispensary is a most practical man and having a dispensary on his own estate knows how one should be run, and I consider it most lax that the authorities who have visited this dispensary from time to time have not brought the condition of the building to the notice of Government before and seen that the work was taken in hand. I should like to urge on Government the immediate necessity for the examination outside as well as inside of this building by the P. C. M. O. or the P.S. of the province and propose that a special report be sent in to Government with as little delay as possible so that this dispensary can be put on to a satisfactory footing, which the district has every right to expect, considering its contribution to the general revenue. In passing, I should like to notice the matter of the proposed new female ward at the Lindula Hospital. I am not aware whether any site has been absolutely fixed upon, but I do know that a site, and a most unsuitable one, has been under consideration by the P.W.D. above the cart road which is not a suitable position, and I would therefore ask that Government call for a "special" report on this matter before a commencement of the ward is made. I think I can safely say that a better site than the one under consideration of the P.W.D. can be found below the cart road and in a more central position, in the hospital grounds. The returns from the hospitals may be taken as satisfactory on the whole. There is one matter, however, that I should like to draw the attention of estate managers to; that is, the transport of their sick coolies to hospital. I hope they will see that their sick coolies are sent in a comfortable manner and not slung in a sack or cumbly as I have seen sometimes. Also I would ask each Superintendent not to postpone the despatch of sick coolies to the hospital until the coolies are on their last legs, but to take serious cases in hand as promptly as possible. Anchylostomiasis is not on the increase I am glad to note. We must all work together to reduce the mortality on estates. I would also like to suggest that managers of estates laying a supply of Emetine Pills so that serious bowel complaints can be treated promptly and not allowed to take a bad turn. There is another matter I should like to call attention to, and that is hospital and dispensaries in this district border the main road and for that reason I think the D.P.W. might issue instructions that the road in front of these buildings should have tar applied to prevent the dust caused by motor lorries and motor cars covering the whole of these buildings with clouds of dust, which is very unhealthy as well as causing a certain amount of damage to the inside of these sanitary buildings. I should like to move a very hearty vote of thanks to the unofficial hospital visitors in our district for the interest they showed in their work.

EUROPEAN DOCTOR SCHEME.

Without taking up too much of your time I should like to put on record our appreciation of our European Doctor and the services which he has rendered during the year.

Dr. Smartt has proved himself admirably energetic not only at his work but also in the general sports of our district. It is pleasing to notice how popular this scheme has been, which is shown by nearly every estate in Dimbula having retained our European doctor. This feature speaks for itself. As you all know the old doctor's bungalow was in such a bad state that we found it imperative to lease a small bungalow for the doctor's use until we could secure enough support for building an up-to-date house for him. On the recommendation of the Committee, plans and estimates for the building of a new bungalow were called for. Messrs. Walker & Greig, Ltd., Appu Silva and B. R. de Silva submitted estimates and finally Walker & Greig, Ltd.'s estimate of Rs. 14,119.13 for an upstairs bungalow was accepted. For this work to be undertaken a cess of 40 cents per cultivated acre in Dimbula and Pundaloya was to be collected. I am glad to be able to announce that over 75 per cent. of the cultivated acreage in Dimbula and Pundaloya has supported the scheme for building a comfortable house for the doctor on a site which is the property of the district. I should also like to say that I hope no single estate in Dimbula or Pundaloya will stand outside this important scheme. I feel certain that no proprietor who has the interests of his estate at heart will refuse to subscribe to a permanent building for a competent doctor who can keep his manager and his family, if he has one, in good fettle to carry out the arduous duties of present day estate management. I sincerely hope that we shall soon be able to house our European doctor in such a manner as will enable him to keep in good health besides reside in a central position in the district.

CHAPLAINCY.

Rev. Arthur LeFevre was appointed to fill Rev. W. Purton's place. He took up duties on the 1st October. I have to report that the Parsonage has been renovated and put on to a proper footing prior to our new Chaplain being installed. It will be noticed from the accounts the rent received and the amount spent on the Parsonage during the year 1913. We were very fortunate in getting such a good tenant during Mr. Purton's absence and until our present Chaplain arrived. A list of furniture in the parsonage was drawn out and signed by the Chaplain, Chairman, D.P.A., as Trustee and Hon. Secretary, D.P.A., and a copy of same duly signed was filed with each. I am sure I am only voicing the sense of the district when I express our great sorrow at the reason which caused Mr. Purton's retirement from the Dimbula Chaplaincy. We all hope that he is enjoying the best of health now in the old country.

MATERNITY NURSING SCHEME.

You have doubtless read what is said in the report under this heading. You have all received during the year printed circulars showing the birth and death rate for two years on all the estates in the district. You doubtless read the chief causes for the death rate, more especially in maternity cases. It, therefore, behoves every estate proprietor and manager to do all in their power to prevent unnecessary mortality among children and their mothers,

who do so much to pluck our tea leaf at a reasonable cost throughout the year. As you are aware there is a Maternity Scheme in Upper and Mid Dimbula. I have hopes that some energetic man in Lower Dimbula will take the matter up at that end and secure a trained nurse from the General Hospital in Colombo so that it can be reported a year hence that there is a Maternity Scheme throughout Dimbula. I feel sure that the results from looking after the children born on every estate in our district cannot but have far-reaching and satisfactory results in years to come. If everybody will only pay attention to this detail which is of such paramount importance to the good name of our estates not only in Ceylon but in the villages in India from whence our labour hails. The thanks of the District are due to the Managers of Waverley and Belgravia estates for the interest which they have bestowed on this matter during the year.

EXCISE.

The Advisory Committee of Excise for the Revenue District of Nuwara Eliya has not yet held a meeting, but it is proposed, I believe, to call one in February. As you are aware there are a large number of foreign liquor shops and others in this district and therefore the matter of increasing or reducing the number of licenses will have the serious consideration of our member who has been appointed to serve on the Excise Committee.

VOLUNTEERING.

This important matter does not loom up in the district—I trust that the younger members of our community will see their way to earmark some of their leisure during the year 1914 for the duty to their country and its defence. I have it on good authority that our keen commanders in the district find it increasingly difficult to attract our young bloods to volunteering or to the annual camp of exercise.

I sincerely hope that in 1914 our young men will see to it a repetition of this report does not occur. Marksmanship is especially of paramount importance to every man if he wishes to take his place in the defence of this vast Empire.

PESTS.

I would only remind you of the immense importance of keeping the Oxalis weed in constant check, even though in some cases it is impossible to hope for eradication.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

I should like to take this opportunity of acknowledging with grateful thanks the many courtesies received from every Government Department which I have come in contact with during the year, and for the attention which has been given to our letters and personal interviews from time to time on important matters in our district. Those of you who move about and notice things will have observed the great improvement which the C.G.R. have made to the Goods-shed road, but we do not wish them to construe this reference that we do not want still further improvement, and a proper maintenance of this important outlet which affects the transport of our district very considerably, especially in bad weather.

I should like to notice the great vigilance and energy played by our Assistant Government Agent and the Assistant Superintendent of Police. You are doubtless aware that last October our A.G.A. made a considerable incursion of the Dimbula district and has taken immense interest in the welfare of all our doings. I trust we can count on his co-operation in the future.

The police have been able to get two convictions of rascals stealing rice from our transport carts and each of them have been sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment. These thefts have been very prevalent in the district for some years past, and the delinquents when caught should be subject to the severest sentence the law can impose.

In one particular case a very serious shortage has been brought to my notice during the last quarter of the year. Motor lorry traffic is generally introduced, shortages of this nature will soon be at an end. Considering the very large sum which this district pays towards the Police Force, its maintenance and its pension fund, we have every right to have a competent force stationed in the district, and one which is capable of carrying out duties efficiently, and we ask the Government to see that this is done and to give us value for our money expended.

Concluding the CHAIRMAN proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Secretary, to whom he paid a high tribute, and members of the Committee.

The report was then adopted.

MR. H. HARDING RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

MR. HARDING having vacated the Chair, Mr. G. C. Bliss was elected to that office *pro tem*, and at once proposed a particularly hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Harding for the tremendous amount of work he had done during the past year and the untiring energy he had displayed. His obvious wish to help on and further the interests of the district required very few words from the speaker to encourage them to give him a very hearty vote of thanks.

The vote was accorded with acclamation.

MR. CHAMBERLIN proposed that Mr. Harding be asked to resume for another year, and testified to the unanimous satisfaction it would give to all if he could again be permitted to officiate.

MR. SMETHURST seconded.

MR. HARDING briefly returned thanks and, while expressing a wish that they could have found new blood, spoke of his determination to do the best he could. He pointed out that if at any time during the year he felt compelled to resign they should accept his resignation.

THE HON. SECRETARY.

The CHAIRMAN moved the re-appointment of Mr. Huntley Wilkinson as Hon. Secretary, and spoke of the amount of hard work he had put in and the vast assistance he had rendered to the speaker.

MR. HUNTLEY WILKINSON said he would be glad to accept the office, but he was not sure of being able to continue the whole year owing to private reasons. He hoped that if

those compelled him to resign during the year they would accept his resignation.

Other office-bearers were elected or nominated as follows:—

AUDITOR.—Mr. L. Cross Buchanan.

HONORARY SECRETARY TELEPHONES.—Mr. F. W. LeFeuvre.

REPRESENTATIVE KANDY COMMITTEE—CEYLON PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.—Messrs. F. W. LeFeuvre, A. A. Bowie, A. L. Gibson, R. Mylius and Sydney Smith.

STANDING COMMITTEE.—Messrs. F. E. Waring, J. Tilly, R. Mylius, A. A. Bowie, F. H. Layard, H. E. Walker, A. T. Sydney Smith, J. Graeme Sinclair, G. C. Bliss and J. E. B. Baillie Hamilton.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

UPPER AGRAS.—Mr. A. L. Gibson and N. Orchard.

AGRAS.—Messrs. W. Wilson Smith, W. B. Bartlett and A. C. Chamberlin.

PRESTON VALLEY.—Mr. R. C. Fowler and Mr. E. E. Megget.

GORGE VALLEY.—Mr. P. Healing and Mr. G. H. Hughes.

TILlicOUNTRY.—Mr. H. M. McLeod.

WALLAHA.—Mr. D. J. Maitland, and Mr. Howard.

LINDULA.—Mr. C. L. Bliss.

TALAWAKELE.—Mr. G. W. Ferguson and Mr. Renton.

WATTAGODA.—Mr. J. Eustace and C. S. Wait.

LOWER DIMBULA.—Mr. Sparkes and Mr. J. Mitchell.

KOTAGALA.—Mr. Mason and Mr. W. H. Cooke.

MOUNT VERNON.—Mr. W. H. Morrison and Mr. Scott.

UPPER DIMBULA.—Messrs. J. MacLean, Picken, and G. H. Collinson.

MIDDLE DIMBULA.—Messrs. A. H. Armitage, L. Cross Buchanan and E. Cowan.

DISTRICT EUROPEAN DOCTOR SCHEME COMMITTEE.—Messrs. G. C. Bliss, A. L. Scott, H. D. McMillan, A. A. Bowie, A. M. Cooper, W. H. Cooke, D. F. de C. Buckle, C. L. Bliss, T. S. Mason, J. W. Ferguson, and Winthrop.

TELEPHONES.—Messrs. E. E. Megget, C. L. Bliss, L. Cross Buchanan, S. Howard, J. D. Macdonald, J. Graeme Sinclair and J. W. Ferguson.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.—Messrs. A. L. Gibson, D. J. Maitland, Saner, G. C. Bliss and Megget.

MINOR ROADS.—Messrs. R. C. Fowler, H. D. McMillan, Cox Scott, A. A. Bowie, Smethurst and J. G. Sinclair.

VIGILANCE.—Messrs. G. H. Collinson, C. L. Bliss, A. L. Scott and A. E. Walford.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND CANVASSORS.—Messrs. W. H. Cooke, P. Healing, A. L. Scott, G. H. Collinson and J. W. Ferguson.

• MINOR COMMITTEE TO REPORT UPON CONDITION OF ROADS.—Wallaha Road, Mr. D. J. Maitland, Gorge Valley Road, Mr. J. E. B. Baillie Hamilton; Lindula Agra Road:—Lin-Caledo-Gap, Mr. E. H. Walter; Caledoni-Holbrook, Mr. J. E. Tull; Holbrook-Diyagama, Mr. A. L. Gibson.

WEEDS IN ROADSIDE DRAINS.

The D. E. wrote as follows on the above subject:—

P. W. D. Office,
Dimbula, January 24th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

I would like to bring to your notice the general practice in the district of estate coolies throwing weeds, stones and prunings on to the road-way and into the drains. It is difficult for me to improve the surface of the roads if the drains are interfered with in this way.

I shall be much obliged if you can help me by bringing the matter up for discussion at your next general meeting, or when you think proper.

Yours faithfully,
J. K. MACBRIDE,
District Engineer.

INSURANCE ON THE RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN said some time ago a lady of the district lost certain wearing apparel on the railway. He took the matter up to see how they could avoid loss and the railway had sent them the following conditions—

1. The charge for insurance, which must be prepaid, is one per cent. on the value (minimum charge Re. 1), and is to be declared in writing at the time of booking.

2. Application for the insurance of any package valued at Rs. 500 or upwards is to be made to the General Manager, Colombo. Station-masters are authorised to accept insurance rate on packages valued at less than Rs. 500.

3. Before any packages for conveyance as luggage or parcels can be insured, the owner or sender must satisfy the officer in charge of the forwarding station that they are securely packed and sealed with a legible seal in such a manner as to prevent the packages being opened without breaking the seals. A declaration of the contents must also be given in writing.

4. The railway reserves the right of inspecting, before effecting any insurance, all packages delivered to them for insurance, to ascertain that the contents are in accordance with the declaration and are in good condition and well packed; also of calling upon the consignee to open the package at the station of destination.

The regulations caused some amusement, and one member enquired "Don't they want your birth certificate also." (Laughter.)

THE P. L. F.

The following correspondence was read, and on the suggestion of Mr. Bliss further action was deferred until the meeting of the Committee:—

DEAR SIR,

November 29th, 1913.

It would be obliging if you would kindly send me at your convenience a list of the estates with their acreages, brought up to, say, 30th November, 1913, who have joined the Proprietors' Labour Federation.

There are certain misapprehensions abroad and therefore I think you will agree that it is to the best interests of the Federa-

tion to be perfectly frank with each Association who look to the Parent Association for reliable information on this and kindred subjects.

Yours faithfully,
HUNTLEY WILKINSON,
Hon. Secretary,
Dimbula P. A.

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION OF CEYLON.

Proprietors' Labour Federation,
Kandy, December 1st, 1913

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 29th November, I have much pleasure in sending you an up to date list of the estates belonging to the Proprietors' Labour Federation.

I have not got one printed with the acreages included, but these you can find on reference to the Directory, which varies slightly, if at all, from the amounts stated by the various persons who have registered estates.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STILL,
Secretary.
December 13th, 1913.

DEAR SIR,

Your letter of 1st December, 1913. I have not as yet received the list mentioned in your letter. I could, as you suggest, work out the acreages but this would not be official.

Our Chairman thinks that it would be to the advantage of concerned if you could let us have the exact figures on given data from your official lists if you would be so kind.

Yours faithfully,
HUNTLEY WILKINSON.

The Proprietors' Labour Federation of Ceylon,
Kandy, December, 15th, 1913

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, and on reference to my Tappal book I find that a list of Federated estates was posted to you on that date. As this has failed to come to hand, I am today posting you another.

As I wrote to you on the 1st December, I have got no list printed with the acreages of each estate included.

I will lay your request before my Committee.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STILL,
Secretary.

LIQUID FUEL.

Owing to the shortage of liquid fuel and petrol at times the Chairman asked members to send in details of their total requirements, so that Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. could be asked to supply an adequate quantity.

THE CEYLON NURSING ASSOCIATION.

THE CHAIRMAN explained that through an oversight last year the Association's contribution of Rs. 50 was not paid (and not asked for.) The amount had now been collected by subscription, Mr. Mylius having initiated the list with a subscription of Rs. 25.

It was decided that the 1914 subscription of Rs. 50 be paid, and those gentlemen contributing the 1913 amount be heartily thanked for their kindness—Mr. Mylius especially.

A vote of thanks to the chair then concluded the meeting.

HAPUTALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

An annual general meeting of the above Association held at the Haputale Resthouse on Tuesday, 27th January, at 1-30 p.m., preceded by a Committee Meeting. Present were: Messrs. J. W. Hyde (Chairman), R. Coombe, W. Gibson, T. Hudson, B. J. Wyllie, J. R. I. B. T. Heathcote, W. A. Wilson, J. D. Thomson, A. J. O. H. Warren, P. de P. Carey, W. Rollo Cassie, F. Dowker, S. A. Michaels, E. H. S. Child-Thomas, C. Munro and H. J. C. Prior (visitors), A. Allen, Hon. Secretary.

The usual formal business having been carried out, the annual report was read as follows:—

HAPUTALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL

REPORT FOR 1913.

Your Committee have pleasure in laying before you the 38th annual report. The number of estates on the register at the end of the year was 49, and there are two private members.

MEETINGS.—There have been one annual, three general, and four Committee Meetings. Your Committee regrets to state that these four meetings have not been so well attended as formerly.

FINANCE.—The financial position is very satisfactory, the balance at the end of the year being Rs. 832.20.

The official estimates for 1913-14 are as below:—

TEA.					
	Total acreage.	Acreage in bearing.	Est. crop lbs.	Crop in 'live' estates.	Yield per acre.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1913	20,936	19,302	10,675,125	180,550	510
1914	21,248½	19,732½	10,798,900	124,600	556

RUBBER.

	Total No. trees.	Trees in bearing.	Estimated crop. lbs.	Acreage.
1913	623,076	174,894	206,500	8,311
1914	492,161	148,988	294,500	8,085½

OTHER PRODUCTS.

Cocoa 10 cwt.

SEASON AND CROPS.—WEATHER.—The beginning of the year was very wet and the weather was unfavourable up to March. From May to September one of the worst droughts we have had is experienced. The N. E. was exceptionally mild.

CROPS.—Those have been slightly under what was expected, April, May and June were rather below normal. July and October poor. November and December normal.

PRICES.—Except, perhaps for fine teas, the prices realized have been good. The price of rubber has dropped lower than was expected a year ago.

ROADS.—The roads in the district have been kept in good order. All the worst corners are being cut back, and the roads widened on the Haputale-Bandarawella and Bandarawella-Lianawella roads. The Bandarawella-Welimade cart-road was opened this year. A new cart-road has been cut from Liangawella to Lunugalla estate and is now open to traffic.

RAILWAY.—Traffic was seriously interrupted in January by a large slip on Haputale estate, (which is erroneously known as the Roehampton slip), and one on Glenanore estate. The Haputale slip has given no trouble since, but at the same time it has

had no weather of the type of last year to test it. Your Committee feel that this spot is one which will always give cause for anxiety in a bad monsoon. There have been two slips the N. E. monsoon at the site of the Glenanore slip causing interruption in the traffic for three and two days respectively. Your Committee would desire to record their appreciation of the work done by the railway authorities during the past year.

GENERAL TRANSPORT.—Your Committee regret to report there has been no further progress made in connection with the proposed Kelburne-Haputale ropeway. Your Committee invited Mr. John Walker to give detail figures of the proposed scheme, which he did very fully. It is now up to the estates concerned to move in the matter.

PESTS.—Shot-hole borer seems to be spreading in the district and until suitable rules are framed to cope with this pest, your Committee regret no further steps can be taken. During the absence of Mr. Ormiston in England Mr. Hudson has been nominated a member of the Plant Pests Board.

LABOUR.—Your Committee are glad to state that labour on the whole has been satisfactory. Seventy per cent. of the estates in this district belong to the Proprietors' Labour Federation, and your Committee trust that, before long, the other thirty per cent. will see their way to joining.

LOSS ON RICE.—Your Committee are glad to state that this serious question is being gone into by a sub-Committee of the P.A. in Kandy.

DEPUTATION TO H.E. THE GOVERNOR.—A deputation was sent by this Association in July last, to meet, together with members of the Badulla and Passara Associations, H.E. the Acting Governor, matters connected with railway slips, delay in land sales, labour for Government works, transport, etc., were discussed.

COMBINED MEETING OF THE UVA P.A.'s.—In connection with a suggestion from the Passara P.A., your Committee have pleasure in recommending this Association should send representatives to meet those of the Badulla and Passara P.A.'s once a year, to discuss matters that affect this province.

HAPUTALE HOSPITAL.

Mr. J. W. Hyde reports on Haputale Hospital as follows:—

Visited September 5th, 1913. January 3rd, 1914.

The doctor was absent on calls on both my visits. Otherwise the full staff of D.M.A., apothecary, matron and attendant were all present. The number of patients under treatment were on September 5th: 15 males and six females. On January 3rd, 28 males and 4 females. On my last visit I found the male and ward overcrowded, there being only accommodation for 24 males.

The food appeared good and the quantity issued to each patient quite sufficient. There is no fresh milk available, so tinned milk is provided. Iron beds have been provided in the male surgical ward, and I hope will be provided throughout the hospital when funds are available. The buildings generally were in very good order, with the exception of the floors. There are especially noticeable in the kitchens where there are holes all over the place. The floor of the male surgical ward needs re-cementing. The grounds are tidy and well-kept.

I find there have been 30 cases of anchylostomiasis during the year, four of which proved fatal. The D.M.A. thinks this is below the average of former years.

From various unofficial visits paid during the year and the two official visits, it has struck me that the cases in hospital consists very largely of dysentery and chronic diarrhoea cases. On enquiry from the doctor he tells me the reason is that coolies allow these diseases to go on before they will take treatment, and by the time they do go to hospital their insides are worn out, and are therefore not answerable to treatment. With the discovery of Emetino, I think fewer cases of dysentery, &c., would ever reach hospital, if coolies would only take treatment at once. I am told that a permanent infectious disease hospital is to be built to replace the old temporary building.

Though the trees in front of the hospital are very picturesque, I think some of them should be cut out to let in more sun.

KOSLANDE HOSPITAL.

Mr. C. M. Durrant reports on Koslande hospital as follows:—

Visited December 11th, 1913.

D.M.O. was away on duty, so was shown round by apothecary.

Patients: No. of males 21; No. of beds 34. No. of females 14; No. of beds 16.

Wards were not overcrowded. Latrines and bathrooms in good order. As were the grounds.

The condition of the patients appeared satisfactory, and there were no complaints. Food appeared to be ample and well cooked.

A new female ward is required as this ward is invariably overcrowded, this being the first time I have visited the hospital and found it not so.

THE CHAIRMAN.

Mr. J. W. HYDE on vacating the chair moved the adoption of the report and thanked the members and Hon. Secretary for the support they had given him during his term of office.

Mr. R. C. COOMBE was voted to the chair temporarily, and spoke highly of the work done by the retiring Chairman and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to him and to the Hon. Secretary, which was carried unanimously.

OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1914.

CHAIRMAN: On the proposal of Mr. WYLLIE, seconded by the Hon. SECRETARY, Mr. Wills was elected to the chair. Owing to the unavoidable absence of the new Chairman, through illness, it was proposed that Mr. Coombe should carry on the business of the day as Chairman.

HON. SECRETARY: Proposed by Mr. GIBSON and seconded by Mr. WYLLIE that Mr. Allen be re-elected as Hon. Secretary for 1914.

Other office-bearers were elected as follows:—

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

HAPUTALE DISTRICT.—Messrs. W. Gibson, W. A. Wilson, and A. Fellowes Gordon.

W. HAPUTALE DISTRICT.—Mr. E. H. S. Childer Thomas.

KOSLANDE DISTRICT.—Messrs. C. M. Durrant, S. A. Michels and W. Allan.

HALDUMULLA DISTRICT.—Messrs. J. B. Wyllie and J. R. Bell.

BANDARAWELLA DISTRICT.—Messrs. Cobham Grant and G. H. F. Lushington.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—The Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Messrs. W. Gibson, T. Hudson and S. B. Smith.

P. B. FUND.—Mr. S. B. Smith.

C. N. ASSOCIATION.—Mr. W. Gibson.

PLANT PESTS BOARD.—Mr. T. Hudson.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Haputale: Messrs. A. Fellowes Gordon and T. Hudson. Koslande: Messrs. C. M. Durrant and W. Allan.

AUDITOR.—Mr. R. G. Coombe.

P.R.C. MEMBER.—Messrs. S. B. Smith.

J.P., AND U.P.M.

As Mr. Hyde was shortly leaving for England, the Government Agent had written asking for the name of a member to act for him during his absence. It was proposed from the CHAIR that Mr. Hyde do continue to act as J.P., U.P.M. until he leaves for England and that Mr. C. Bayley be asked to act in this office from that date.—Carried.

Mr. HYDE proposed, seconded by Mr. WYLLIE, "That the Government be written to and asked to appoint a deputy coroner for the Haputale District."

ACCOUNTS.

It was proposed from the CHAIR that the accounts for 1913 as submitted by the Hon. Secretary be received.—Carried.

Mr. B. J. WYLLIE proposed, seconded by Mr. P. de P. CAREY, "That, as the financial position of the Association was so satisfactory, Rs. 50 be voted as a donation, from the funds, to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals."—Carried.

COMBINED MEETING OF THE UVA P.A.'s.

The CHAIRMAN explained that a wrong impression had been created, in that rumour had it that the Badulla Passara and Haputale P.A.'s were to combine and form one Association. This was not the case. Three members were to be elected from each of the P.A.'s to meet and confer in matters of vital importance to the Province generally. It was proposed by Mr. GIBSON, and seconded by Mr. HYDE, "That the Chairman, Mr. Bell and Mr. Wyllie be the three members to represent this Association."—Carried.

ROADS.

With the exception of applications for an increase grant on two minor roads for repairs to bridges and culverts, no other matter came up for discussion in connection with roads.

RAILWAY.

Mr. WYLLIE speaking to his resolution, "That Government be asked to erect a station at Indulgashena Gap proposed, and Mr. Bell seconded, that a sub-Committee composed of Messrs. Bell, Scovell and himself be appointed to go into figures in connection with proposed station at Indulgashena and that these figures, together with their report, be submitted for the consideration of this Association, before any further action be taken in the matter.

KATTARAGAMA PILGRIMAGE RULES.

Mr. HYDE read a letter received from the Government Agent, Uva, in reply to a complaint from the former that many estate coolies are allowed to go to this Temple without passes. After some discussion it was proposed (1) "That the Government Agent be written to and thanked for the trouble he had taken in the matter." (2) "That this Association would welcome the suggested punishment of imprisonment to anyone found without passes at the Temple during the pilgrimage and would further suggest that copies of the rules embodying the proposed punishment be printed by Government in Tamil and circulated to all estates in the Province."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Secretary, P.A. re members wishing to join the Coast Agency suggesting that they should first join their respective District Associations. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Hon. Secretary of the Parent Association supporting this proposal.

Read letter from the Secretary, P.A. re the delay in payment of subscriptions, which are due on the first of January.

Read letter from the G.A. re the prevalence of Surra Talawakelle.

Read resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P.A. re Coast Agency, which was supported.

Read letter from Kotmale P.A. As these matters have already been up for discussion at the Parent Association at Kandy, it was decided that no steps need be taken on the matter.

Mr. WILSON proposed, seconded by Mr. WYLLIE, that this Association do fall into line with other Associations in requesting that Ragama accounts be rendered monthly, as the present irregular way of rendering accounts causes great inconvenience."—Carried.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Smith the election standing in his name re a European doctor, had been postponed till the next meeting.

Mr. R. G. COOMBE, after speaking very strongly on the disgraceful condition of the Bandarawella cemetery, that there was no protection for same from the ravages of animals, it being simply on an open Patna, proposed, seconded by the Hon. SECRETARY, "That this Association request the Bandarawella Local Board to take steps to properly enclose the cemetery of that town." Other members spoke very strongly on this matter and the motion was unanimously carried.

The meeting then closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the chair.

MATALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Matale Planters' Association was held at the Borron Memorial Hall on Saturday, the 31st January, at 2 p.m., preceded by a Committee Meeting at 1 p.m. Mr. A. Thorp presided and the following were present:—Messrs. H. D. Garrick, Jas. Anderson, J. B. Tennant, Joseph Malcomson, E. M. LeFeuvre, F. W. Brockham, C. Ross Wright, E. M. Biggs, H. L. Ley, M. E. Waddilove, John Taylor, C. J. Hutchinson, C. Tribe, Gerald Abbot, G. P. Kelly, Bruce Westland, and B. Thomson, W. H. Fitz Patrick, W. Innes Short, L. Hayden, R. P. Gorton, N. Budd Wilson, H. W. Kers, G. C. H. Gordon (visitor), and H. S. Cameron (Hon. Secretary).

The Hon. SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

VOTES OF CONDOLENCE.

THE LATE MR. B. H. JENKYNs AND MR. HODGSON BELL.

The CHAIRMAN said: Before proceeding with the business of the day I wish to place on record the deep regret felt at the loss of two more of our members by death. Mr. B. H. Jenkyns was our Hon. Secretary ten years ago and was one of our original members. I propose that the Hon. Secretary do write and convey to Mrs. Jenkyns our sympathy and appreciation of his work to this Association. Mr. Hodgson Bell (for some time Chairman of this Association) was a regular attendant at the meetings here and in Kandy, and was an earnest worker of the various Committees and he was never known to miss a meeting. I propose a vote of condolence be passed and forwarded to Mrs. Bell at the great and irreparable loss sustained by the death of her husband.

Both proposals were passed, the members standing.

SALE OF LANDS.

Notices of sales of land were submitted.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT CIRCULARS.

The following circulars from the Veterinary Surgeon were placed on the table:—

ANTHRAX.

This is a contagious disease, principally affecting cattle, but it may be communicated to all animals. Human beings may be inoculated, especially those engaged in making *post mortems* or skinning dead cattle. It is caused by the microbe, the *Bacillus Anthracis*, which is found in the blood immediately after death in the form of short rods.

SYMPTOMS AND PREVENTION.

The attack and death is usually very sudden. An animal left well a few hours previously is found dead or dying; often blood oozes from the nostrils and anus. After death the carcass rapidly swells and blood oozes from the nostrils and anus. In such cases suspicion should be aroused and precaution taken. The carcass should not be opened or blood allowed to contaminate the ground. It should be burned, if possible; if not, buried deeply, with quick-lime or disinfectants. Contaminated soils should be scraped off and buried with the carcass. The shed floor should be covered with strong disinfectant solution. Usually cases occur singly and the disease does not spread if such precautions are taken.

DIAGNOSIS.

For diagnosis one ear may be pricked after death, "before decomposition sets in," and one small drop of blood smeared very thinly on a glass microscopic slide, or failing this, a piece of thin window glass. The smear must be transparent: it will be dry in a minute or two. It should be wrapped in a piece of clean white paper, packed in a small tin, and forwarded to the Government Veterinary Surgeon, Colombo. No treatment is of any avail.

G. W. STURGESS, M.R.C.V.S., Government Veterinary Surgeon.

SURRA (TRYPANOSOMIASIS.)

This is a disease due to presence in the blood of small eel-like parasites (*Trypanosoma Wansli*). Both cattle and horses are affected, and sometimes dogs. The parasites develop in periods, each invasion resulting in fever and more weakness and emaciation.

The disease is spread by means of *biting flies*, which are commonly found around stables and cattle sheds, and breed in decaying manure.

SYMPTOMS.

HORSES.—Fever, weakness, dropsical swelling about the sheath and abdomen, weakness of the loins, and staggering gait. These may pass off and return again in two or three weeks. Each attack leaves the animal weaker and more emaciated, until after two or three attacks the animal dies.

CATTLE.—The disease is more chronic than in horses. Fever, roughness of the coat, emaciation, whiteness of the membranes of the eye (anæmia) the animal presenting a miserable wasted appearance. Paralysis of hind quarters may occur. Death may result from exhaustion, or in convulsions.

DIAGNOSIS.

At the time of high fever, in the case of cattle one ear may be pricked and a thin transparent smear of blood made on a glass microscopic slide. In the case of the horse, a small cut with a pair of scissors may be made in the skin of the chest, and a smear of blood made. The slides should be allowed to dry, be wrapped in clean white paper separately, and forwarded to the Government Veterinary Surgeon, Colombo.

TREATMENT AND PREVENTION.

At present treatment is of little avail, and only carried out under expert supervision. It consists in the prolonged administration of arsenic.

Efforts should be made to reduce the biting flies by thoroughly cleaning away all manure from the sheds and spreading lime. Animals should be protected from the flies by every means possible. Fly papers may be used in the sheds and any harmless substance distasteful to flies tightly smeared on the animal's skin such as:—

Margosa oil	... 20 parts
Kerosine oil	... 1 part
Camphor	... 1 part
Citronella oil	... 1 part

especially about the legs, which the flies appear to attack most.

RED WATER (PIROPLASMOSIS).

This disease, also called "Tick Fever," is due to the presence of parasites (piroplasms) in the blood.

SYMPTOMS.

High fever, constipation, anæmia, emaciation. The urine is commonly red or brownish-red, or yellow colour. The disease is transmitted by ticks, and efforts should be made to keep animals free from ticks, especially imported cattle. As in the case of surra, blood smears should be sent for diagnosis when the fever is high.

G. W. STURGESSE, M.B.C.V.S., Government Veterinary Surgeon.

THE CEYLON P. A. MEETING.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Secretary of the Parent Association with reference to the forthcoming annual meeting to be held on the 5th instant at 2-30 p.m. The letter stated that matters of considerable importance will be brought forward for discussion, and a good attendance was requested. It pointed out the necessity of sending in subscriptions in time as no one will be allowed to vote unless subscription has been duly paid.

Mr. H. D. GARRICK: Might I ask how votes are to be recorded, as at the last meeting there was some trouble in this connection.

The HON. SECRETARY.—At first it was required to send in the names of estates but now names of voters must be sent. I have sent three lists, which will satisfy all requirements and obviate trouble on this matter.

KANDY CEMETERY.

With reference to this matter the Hon. Secretary read a letter from Mr. Shand with reference to his letter published in the Press. Mr. Shand wished gentlemen would note

any points of interest. He further stated that the names of subscribers and members were wanted, and that booklets and forms connected with the subject would be sent.

The HON. SECRETARY said that he sent out a list but received no contribution. He hoped they had sent their contributions to the National Bank, Kandy. The Subscription was limited to Rs. 5. They knew the cemetery was in a bad state. He had taken the trouble to visit the Cemetery and was glad to announce that suitable work had been done. He hoped this deserving matter would receive their support.

NEW MEMBERS.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Superintendent of Vicarton Estate stating that that estate would join the Association, and Mr. Abbot said that Millawana estate would join as from 1st January.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

The HON. SECRETARY announced that Mr. Waddilove had been able to secure the necessary guarantee for obtaining a telegraph office at Elkadua.

Mr. M. E. WADDILOVE: I approached the P.M.G. on the subject as decided at the last meeting. I received a reply from the P. M. G. to the effect that a guarantee of Rs. 1,000 was essential and that Government was prepared to take up half the sum.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you got the guarantee from the estates?

Mr. WADDILOVE: Yes! I wish the matter to go through the Association.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you the guarantee ready and signed?

Mr. WADDILOVE: I have got the letters from the interested estates.

The HON. SECRETARY thought certain forms would have to be filled up and signed and that he would write them.

Mr. WADDILOVE proposed:—"That the required guarantee having been assured. Government be asked to open a telegraph office at Elkadua with the least possible delay."

Mr. H. L. ANLEY seconded.—Carried unanimously.
J. P., U. P. M.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. W. J. Southorn, A. G. A., Matale, stating that Mr. Jas. Anderson having resigned a vacancy had occurred in the office of Justice of the Peace and Unofficial Police Magistrate for the Matale district, and requesting the Association to recommend a successor, whose name might be submitted to His Excellency the Governor for consideration.

Mr. H. D. GARRICK proposed the name of Mr. J. F. Brockman.

Mr. J. B. TENNANT seconded.—Carried unanimously.
DR. HUNT'S VISIT.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from Dr. Hunt informing them that he would be visiting Kepitigalla and would be glad to visit any other estate if desired.

A number of those present gave the names of their estates.

LIQUID FUEL.

The HON. SECRETARY said: You will remember Mr. Anderson brought a resolution as regards the very unsatisfactory way in which the local Liquid Fuel Installation supplies this very essential article to estates, very often no liquid fuel being procurable in Matale affecting the working of estate factories seriously. Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. attributed the cause to want of sufficient tank wagons on the railway to convey liquid fuel. A long correspondence ensued with the General Manager, C. G. R.

Mr. GARRICK wished to know the result.

It was thought unnecessary to read the correspondence.

THE MATALE TRAIN ARRANGEMENT.

The HON. SECRETARY said that in reply to the request of the Association to the General Manager to obtain a connection of the last train from Kandy (5 p.m.) with the afternoon train from Colombo (2 p.m.) the following letter was received:—

H. S. CAMERON Esq.,
Syston, Matale.

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office,
Colombo 6th January, 1914.

With reference to your letter of the 26th November, 1913, which, I regret, has not been replied to earlier, I am sorry that I cannot for some time to come and arrange for the late train from Kandy to Matale to be put on again. The progress of the repairs of the serious breaches on that line is not sufficiently advanced to make it desirable to run night trains over the line.

You are aware of how serious the breaches were and though work is being pushed on as quickly as possible a great deal still remains to be done.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant.

G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

Mr. H. D. GARRICK: They have done and are doing all they can.

It was thereupon proposed to write and thank the General Manager for his letter and to express the hope that he would soon find it possible to run this train.

THE NORTH ROAD.

DEATH-TRAPS.

In connection with the resolution brought forward by Mr. Abbot and passed at the last meeting with reference to the North Road, the following letter was read by the Hon. Secretary.

Matale, 17th December, 1913.

To H. S. CAMERON Esq.,
Syston, Ukuwella.

I have the honour to state that I noticed the unsatisfactory lighting, etc., of this place about the time of your letter and gave orders to have it attended to.

I should like to make a request through your Association to planters whose estates border on the public roads that they keep

the branches of the trees and fence at the roadside cut back as I find that in many places the roads are badly overgrown and this is detrimental to the roads and the traffic.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

F. G. STEVENS, D.E.

The CHAIRMAN: I don't quite understand this letter. What was complained of was that there was no protection and light at the obstruction and that it was a death-trap and not that the lighting was unsatisfactory. As regards the trees, they belonged to the P.W.D. In some cases they belonged to us. Anyhow Government should see to this and pay the resultant expenses.

Mr. GARRICK said he did not think coconuts and other such trees were meant.

The CHAIRMAN thought the damages referred to were from "Ingasaman" and other shade trees.

Mr. TAYLOR: The letter spoke of branches and fences!

Mr. HAYDEN: If the P.W.D. thought they had removed one death-trap I have to bring to the notice of the meeting that they have set up another death-trap which is equally dangerous, if not more than the others.

The CHAIRMAN: Where?

Mr. HAYDEN: Between Sudugange and the Rattota turn off. The obstruction has been in the course of repairs for two months and a deal of mud has been thrown on the road. They cut the road up first and then look for stones, instead of first providing the materials necessary for so important a work.

The CHAIRMAN: The D.E. should be written to on the subject.

Mr. HAYDEN: I should think the attention of the Provincial Engineer should be drawn to this matter.

The CHAIRMAN advised proposing a resolution.

Mr. HAYDEN then proposed the following resolution:—

That the attention of the P. E. be called to the delay in finishing the two new culverts between the Rattota turn off and the Sudugange bridge and an assurance be asked of the probable date of the completion of these works in the nearest possible future.

Mr. C. J. HUTCHINSON seconded.

The CHAIRMAN: Any objection?

SEVERAL MEMBERS: None whatever.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. GARRICK: I hear from a private source that our present D. E. is to be removed to Colombo and that Mr. A. C. B. Jonklaas of Kegalle is to succeed him.

WATTEGAMA-UKUWELLA NEW ROAD.

The HON. SECRETARY said that he wrote asking for the date of opening the new road and received a reply from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary that the Ukuwella-Wattegama Road was opened for through traffic on the 1st January.

The CHAIRMAN did not think they could call the road opened. The D. E. had pulled up a culvert and one had to go half way to Ballacadda and then take the Kalalpitiya Road. The whole thing he considered a piece of bad management. It took the authorities a pretty long time.

Mr. MALCOMSON said he heard that the road beyond Ukuwella had been closed for two months.

The CHAIRMAN: We might draw the attention of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to the fact that the road is not opened.

Mr. GARRICK: It has been opened.

Mr. C. ROSS WRIGHT said that they had been told the Ukuwella-Wattegama Road had been opened. They started at one end of the road. They should have started at the Ukuwella end. They said they have opened the road, but as a matter of fact they had closed it at one end. It might be that some of those present had found it possible to ride or motor through the road, but the road, he asserted, had had not been completely opened, and to say that it had was a perfect fallacy. He thought it would be some three months before it was ready.

The CHAIRMAN: We will consider it opened but not completed.

Mr. ROSS WRIGHT: I don't think you can consider it opened. The authorities have been at this work for three or four years, and it is not complete yet.

Mr. E. M. BIGGS: The cart road as far as Ukuwella has been opened, that is Wattegama to Ukuwella. At Ukuwella work is going on in the construction of a crossing over the Railway line. The P. W. D. have, however, blocked the road from Ukuwella to Ukuwella Factory. This portion is unfit for traffic, it being impossible to ride even a motor bike. At first there were about four coolies working on this portion, but now I see no coolies and there is no prospect of through traffic being resumed for two or three months. There is no metal, the road is pulled up and there is three feet of mud. They have taken three years over this road, and only the P. W. D. know how long it will take to give us this road.

The CHAIRMAN then suggested asking the Secretary to write to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to the effect that this Association, while accepting his statement that the road had been opened, wish to express the opinion that, as far as Matale is concerned, it is quite useless until the Ukuwella railway crossing and culvert are completed.

LABOUR.

The HON. SECRETARY said that Mr. Tenant's resolution re delayed cooly bills from Ragama had been taken up by the Parent Association at Kandy and he thought the result was satisfactory, for he hoped bills would, in future, be submitted in time.

The Hon. Secretary submitted the accounts for the past year showing a good credit balance, and these were passed. A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Garrick for auditing same.

The following report for the year submitted and passed:—

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1913.

During 1913 subscriptions paid amounted to 81 compared with 86 in 1912. The resignation of some private members and of one estate accounts for the decrease.

The FINANCES of the Association are in a satisfactory condition and show a credit balance of Rs. 222.61. During the year four general meetings have been held, preceded on each occasion by the usual Committee meeting. The attendance at all the meetings was eminently satisfactory, evidencing a keen interest in the proceedings and in the affairs of the district. So far as the general well-being of the district is concerned the past year has been anything but good owing to the phenomenal and exceedingly badly distributed rainfall. During January the rainfall was excessive throughout the month and during the 24 hours of January 17th, the rainfall varied between 9 inches and over 20 inches throughout the district.

ROADS, BRIDGES, CULVERTS, part of the railway, paddy fields and in one case, a cocoa store, were destroyed, and traffic was held up for a considerable period.

Again in October a similar deluge occurred averaging about 11 inches in the 24 hours, but, as it fell more gradually than the January downpour, not so much damage was done. The rainfall continued, more or less, excessively throughout November and December, whilst, in contrast to this visitation, the period between January and October was one of the driest on record.

This abnormal weather throughout the year without a doubt adversely affected all crops in lower part of the district. Generally speaking, the results have been poor as regards tea and cocoa. As respect to the lower parts of the valley, which may be taken as representing the average, the rainfall of the year has totalled no less than 117 inches which is certainly a record for the past twenty years. In that period a rainfall over 100 inches has been recorded only three times, the highest being 107 inches in 1891. The higher parts of the district harvested a good tea crop.

LABOUR cannot by any stretch of imagination be called satisfactory or sufficient. Advances are still on the increase, and very few estates can be said to be full of labour. However, cost of production of rubber is steadily decreasing.

THE PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION has not so far succeeded in including a workable majority of the estates in the district to join and several of big companies' properties still stand out.

HEALTH.—During the last three months of excessive rain the health of the coolies and villagers has been very bad in the lower parts of the valley. There has been a phenomenal visitation of malarial quitoes which was at once followed by an epidemic of fever of the most virulent type. The result of this has been a serious shortage of available labour which, on all low-lying estates, has somewhat retarded the working programme being carried out.

ROADS.—During the past two years the District Road Committee had in hand a large balance of available funds, which was completely spent on road improvement. The phenomenal rainfall of the past year has not only destroyed all the good work done, but will necessitate probably two years' future income being spent entirely on repairs before the roads and paths can be restored to normal condition. The main roads under the P. W. D. have also suffered excessively, and, owing to their chronic shortness of labour, the repair work has fallen far short of completion at the time of issuing this report. Owing to the faulty foundations in the buttresses the bridge over the Nalanda Oya at Paldeniya on the Palapatawala Galawela road was broken down by the January floods, and various other bridges on the other roads were washed away. Some of these bridges have not yet been replaced.

The much discussed road between Ukuwella and Wattegama will be open early in 1914. Much of the delay was due to the fact the ironwork of the big bridge over the river near Kuruwita was found on delivery, to be a misfit for the standing buttresses. It must not be forgotten that the estates through which the road passes gave their land free for the purpose, while Government paid for the native land involved.

TELEPHONES.—This subject was brought up once more, and the district was circularised to ascertain the amount of support likely to be forthcoming, but the number of estates that signified their wish for the installation was so small, and they were so scattered, that the matter has been shelved again for the present.

LICENSED TAVERNS.—Several of these have been moved elsewhere from previous undesirable situations. No specific complaints have been laid before the Association concerning any of the taverns or it may be presumed that they are working satisfactorily.

CRIME.—Cases of serious crime have been unusually numerous during the year, while thefts of produce and property have occurred on several occasions. A considerable number of cases of housebreaking have taken place both in Matale town and in the villages. A very bad case of theft of cocoa from a sealed wagon in the railway goods yard also occurred, but unfortunately no conviction was secured.

TEA.—The product made a fairly satisfactory recovery during the year after the excessive droughts of the previous two years. The effects of the droughts in 1910 and 1911 are still shown in the low lying parts of the district by the number of vacancies, but this refers to only a very small portion of the tea acreage. Another factor accounting for loss of crop in the considerable acreage of more or less poor tea now interplanted with rubber, and doomed to go out at no distant period. Shot-hole borer is bad in parts of the district. No figures as to crop returns are available for this report owing to the laxity of superintendents of estates in not replying to the circulars. Prices throughout the year have been satisfactory.

COCOA.—The crop of 1912 was, generally speaking, a record one. The January rain caused a high percentage of black cocoa in that month and ruined the spring crop, while the drought in August and September entirely spoiled a promising autumn crop. In consequence yields for 1913 were very low. Prices were very satisfactory throughout the year.

The reduction in the indiscriminate granting of cocoa licenses has acted as a great check to the serious loss previously sustained by theft.

RUBBER is undoubtedly giving satisfactory returns, though, for reasons given in the paragraph on tea, no figures can be quoted in this report. The growth all round is good and planted acreage is still increasing. Tapping in general shows improvement; bark renewal when aided by cultivation is satisfactory. The drop in the price of rubber has been felt by Matale in common by other districts. The Colombo rubber sales have been a complete success and are very largely supported.

CARDAMOMS.—The condition of this product is peculiar. For several years past crops have been steadily declining and the generally accepted opinion was that this is due to "old age" but, seeing that the decrease obtaining in both old and young stools, even in young fields that should still be on the steady increase, this reason can hardly account for the present state of things entirely. Prices remain high and a certain amount of cutting out and replanting old stools has been, and is being done, but, generally speaking, the tendency is towards decrease of acreage under this product and little jungle remains available for new plantings.

COCONUTS, PEPPER AND CROTON continue to yield satisfactorily. Coconut plantations are extending in the northern parts of the district. The price of coconuts remains high, but pepper and croton have both declined considerably. The past year's crop of pepper was very low compared with 1912.

The hospital was twice visited during the year by those members appointed to that duty.

Conditions in general were found satisfactory except in December, when the visitors found the place very overcrowded, there being 175 patients in the wards, but only 123 beds. A temporary ward is now being erected, however, which will relieve the congestion somewhat, but it is to be hoped that the additional accommodation will be made permanent in the near future to cope with such visitations as the present terrible wave of sickness. Another room is being added to the nurses' quarters.

Dr. E. Langley Hunt, C.M.C., Itinerating Medical Officer, attended our meeting in September and addressed the Association on coolie line sanitation. He also visited several estates in the district and made suggestions re line improvements and water supplies. The practical nature of his recommendations and his realization of

the difficulties of the situation have made the planting community most ready to avail themselves of his services.

OBITUARY.—During the past year the district has lost two of its resident planters, both of whom had identified themselves with this Association. Mr. James Westland was one of our oldest members and while health permitted a most regular attendant at all meetings both of our Associations and of the Kandy Committee—his enthusiasm knew no bounds and neither time, trouble, nor expense were considered if he thought he could benefit the planting community.

Mr. Jenkins was for some time our secretary. He resigned this position over ten years ago. Since then, though often not resident in the district, he always continued his membership and, when here, generally attended our meeting.

MR. THORP RETIRES.

Mr. THORP said the annual report was such a full complete one that he had little or nothing to add. He thanked the members and the members of the various Committees and the hospital visitors for their work in connection with the business of the Association for the good of the district. Last but not least he wished to thank Mr. Cameron, the Hon. Secretary. He therefore vacated the chair.

Mr. TENNANT proposed Mr. Jas. Anderson to the chair *pro tem*.

Mr. GARRICK seconded.

Mr. ANDERSON, on taking the chair, proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman, which was passed amid applause.

Mr. ANDERSON suggested that Mr. Thorp should be asked to occupy the chair for the current year too.

Mr. GARRICK seconded.

Mr. THORP thanked the meeting for re-electing him, but regretted that he was not able to take up the post again. He much appreciated the honour, but he had so much work to do that he could not possibly undertake to be their Chairman this year also.

Mr. CAMERON: It is usual for the Chairman to continue at least for two years.

Mr. THORP: I am sorry I cannot do so. I wish to propose that the Hon. Secretary should be elected as the Chairman for the current year.

Mr. H. D. GARRICK seconded.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. GARRICK proposed that Mr. J. F. W. Brockman be appointed Secretary in place of Mr. Cameron. He said that having been Chairman for a long time he knew the usefulness of having a Secretary living close. Mr. Brockman lived close to Mr. Cameron and had a motor-car, and this would be advantageous and facilitate work. Mr. Brockman had stood out long enough and it was high time now that he should come forward.

Mr. J. B. TENNANT seconded.

Mr. BROCKMAN hoped some one else could be found for the post.

Mr. GARRICK: I am sure we all wish him to be our Secretary.

Mr. BROCKMAN agreeing, he was unanimously elected.

Dr. Smartt has proved himself admirably energetic not only at his work but also in the general sports of our district. It is pleasing to notice how popular this scheme has been, which is shown by nearly every estate in Dimbula having retained our European doctor. This feature speaks for itself. As you all know the old doctor's bungalow was in such a bad state that we found it imperative to lease a small bungalow for the doctor's use until we could secure enough support for building an up-to-date house for him. On the recommendation of the Committee, plans and estimates for the building of a new bungalow were called for. Messrs. Walker & Greig, Ltd., Appu Silva and B. R. de Silva submitted estimates and finally Walker & Greig, Ltd.'s estimate of Rs. 14,119.13 for an upstairs bungalow was accepted. For this work to be undertaken a cess of 40 cents per cultivated acre in Dimbula and Pundaloya was to be collected. I am glad to be able to announce that over 75 per cent. of the cultivated acreage in Dimbula and Pundaloya has supported the scheme for building a comfortable house for the doctor on a site which is the property of the district. I should also like to say that I hope no single estate in Dimbula or Pundaloya will stand outside this important scheme. I feel certain that no proprietor who has the interests of his estate at heart will refuse to subscribe to a permanent building for a competent doctor who can keep his manager and his family, if he has one, in good fettle to carry out the arduous duties of present day estate management. I sincerely hope that we shall soon be able to house our European doctor in such a manner as will enable him to keep in good health besides reside in a central position in the district.

CHAPLAINCY.

Rev. Arthur LeFeuvre was appointed to fill Rev. W. Purton's place. He took up duties on the 1st October. I have to report that the Parsonage has been renovated and put on to a proper footing prior to our new Chaplain being installed. It will be noticed from the accounts the rent received and the amount spent on the Parsonage during the year 1913. We were very fortunate in getting such a good tenant during Mr. Purton's absence and until our present Chaplain arrived. A list of furniture in the parsonage was drawn out and signed by the Chaplain, Chairman, D.P.A., as Trustee and Hon. Secretary, D.P.A., and a copy of same duly signed was filed with each. I am sure I am only voicing the sense of the district when I express our great sorrow at the reason which caused Mr. Purton's retirement from the Dimbula Chaplaincy. We all hope that he is enjoying the best of health now in the old country.

MATERNITY NURSING SCHEME.

You have doubtless read what is said in the report under this heading. You have all received during the year printed circulars showing the birth and death rate for two years on all the estates in the district. You doubtless read the chief causes for the death rate, more especially in maternity cases. It, therefore, behoves every estate proprietor and manager to do all in their power to prevent unnecessary mortality among children and their mothers,

who do so much to pluck our tea leaf at a reasonable cost throughout the year. As you are aware there is a Maternity Scheme in Upper and Mid Dimbula. I have hopes that some energetic man in Lower Dimbula will take the matter up at that end and secure a trained nurse from the General Hospital in Colombo so that it can be reported a year hence that there is a Maternity Scheme throughout Dimbula. I feel sure that the results from looking after the children born on every estate in our district cannot but have far-reaching and satisfactory results in years to come. If everybody will only pay attention to this detail which is of such paramount importance to the good name of our estates not only in Ceylon but in the villages in India from whence our labour hails. The thanks of the District are due to the Managers of Waverley and Belgravia estates for the interest which they have bestowed on this matter during the year.

EXCISE.

The Advisory Committee of Excise for the Revenue District of Nuwara Eliya has not yet held a meeting, but it is proposed, I believe, to call one in February. As you are aware there are a large number of foreign liquor shops and others in this district and therefore the matter of increasing or reducing the number of licenses will have the serious consideration of our member who has been appointed to serve on the Excise Committee.

VOLUNTEERING.

This important matter does not loom up in the district—I trust that the younger members of our community will see their way to earmark some of their leisure during the year 1914 for the duty to their country and its defence. I have it on good authority that our keen commanders in the district find it increasingly difficult to attract our young bloods to volunteering or to the annual camp of exercise.

I sincerely hope that in 1914 our young men will see it a repetition of this report does not occur. Marksmanship is especially of paramount importance to every man if he wishes to take his place in the defence of this vast Empire.

PESTS.

I would only remind you of the immense importance of keeping the Oxlalis weed in constant check, even though in some cases it is impossible to hope for eradication.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

I should like to take this opportunity of acknowledging with grateful thanks the many courtesies received from every Government Department which I have come in contact with during the year, and for the attention which has been given to our letters and personal interviews from time to time on important matters in our district. Those of you who move about and notice things will have observed the great improvement which the C.G.R. have made to the Goods shed road, but we do not wish them to construe this reference that we do not want still further improvement, and a proper maintenance of this important outlet which affects the transport of our district very considerably, especially in bad weather.

I should like to commend the vigilance and energy layed by our Assistant Government Agent and the stant Superintendent of Police. You are doubtless re that last October our A.G.A. made a considerable in- tion of the Dimbula district and has taken immense rest in the welfare of all our doings. I trust we can at on his co-operation in the future.

The police are unable to get two convictions of men stealing transport carts and each of n have been months' rigorous imprison- it. These are very prevalent in the dis- b for some of the delinquents when ght should sentence the law impose.

In one place a shortage has been ght to n quarter of the year. notor lorr duced, shortages of nature v Considering the very e sum wh ards the Police Force, maintenai and we have every right ave a cor ed in the district, and one ch is cap ed duties efficiently, and we to Gove is done and to give us e for our

Conclud ed a hearty vote of ks to the paid a high tribute, and member of the Committee.

The report was then adopted.

Mr. H. HARDING RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Harding having vacated the Chair, Mr. G. C. Bliss elected to that office *pro tem*, and at once proposed a cularly hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Harding for the iendous amount of work he had done during the past and the untiring energy he had displayed. His obvious to help on and further the interests of the district red very few words from the speaker to encourage them ve him a very hearty vote of thanks.

The vote was accorded w' nation.

Mr. CHAMBERLIN propos d. Harding be esume for another year, stified to the satisfaction it would give to all if he could again be per- ed to officiate.

Mr. SMETHURST seconded.

Mr. HARDING briefly returned thanks and, while ex- ing a wish that they could have found new blood, spoke is determination to do the best he could. He pointed that if at any time during the year he left compelled to n they should accept his resignation.

THE HON. SECRETARY.

The CHAIRMAN moved the re-appointment of Mr. Hunt- Wilkinson as Hon. Secretary, and spoke of the amount and work he had put in and the vast assistance he had to the speaker.

Mr. HUNTLEY WILKINSON said he would be glad to ac- the office, but he was not sure of being able to continue whole year owing to private reasons. He hoped that if

those compelled him to resign during the year they would accept his resignation.

Other office-bearers were elected or nominated as follows:—

AUDITOR.—Mr. L. Cross Buchanan.

HONORARY SECRETARY TELEPHONES.—Mr. F. W. Le- Feuvre.

REPRESENTATIVE KANDY COMMITTEE.—(CEYLON PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.)—Messrs. F. W. LeFeuvre, A. A. Bowie, A. L. Gibson, R. Mylius and Sydney Smith.

STANDING COMMITTEE.—Messrs. F. E. Waring, J. Tilly, R. Mylius, A. A. Bowie, F. H. Layard, H. E. Walker, A. T. Sydney Smith, J. Graeme Sinclair, G. C. Bliss and J. E. B. Baillie Hamilton.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

UPPER AGRAS.—Mr. A. L. Gibson and N. Orchard.

AGRAS.—Messrs. W. Wilson Smith, W. B. Bartlett and A. C. Chamberlin.

PRESTON VALLEY.—Mr. R. C. Fowler and Mr. E. E. Megget.

GORGE VALLEY.—Mr. P. Healing and Mr. G. H. Hughes

TILLCOUNTRY.—Mr. H. M. McLeod.

WALLAHA.—Mr. D. J. Maitland, and Mr. Howard.

LINDULA.—Mr. C. L. Bliss.

TALAWAKELE.—Mr. G. W. Ferguson and Mr. Renton.

WATTAGODA.—Mr. J. Eustace and C. S. Wait.

LOWER DIMBULA.—Mr. Sparkes and Mr. J. Mitchell.

KOTAGALA.—Mr. Mason and Mr. W. H. Cooke.

MOUNT VERNON.—Mr. W. H. Morrison and Mr. Scott.

UPPER DIMBULA.—Messrs. J. MacLean, Picken, and G. H. Collinson.

MIDDLE DIMBULA.—Messrs. A. H. Armitage, L. Cross Buchanan and E. Cowan.

DISTRICT EUROPEAN DOCTOR SCHEME COMMITTEE.—Messrs. G. C. Bliss, A. L. Scott, H. D. McMillan, A. A. Bowie, A. M. Cooper, W. H. Cooke, D. F. de C. Buckle, C. Bliss, T. S. Masor rguson, and Winthrop.

TELEPHONES.—L. Megget, C. L. Bliss, L. Cross Buchanan, S. D. Macdonald, J. Graem Sinclair and J. W. Ferguson.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.—Messrs. A. L. Gibson, D. J. Maitland, Saner, G. C. Bliss and Megget.

MINOR ROADS.—Messrs. R. C. Fowler, H. D. Mc- Millan, Cox Scott, A. A. Bowie, Smethurst and J. G. Sinclair.

VIGILANCE.—Messrs. G. H. Collinson, C. L. Bliss, A. L. Scott and A. E. Walford.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND CANVASSERS.—Messrs. W. H. Cooke, P. Healing, A. L. Scott, G. H. Collinson and J. W. Ferguson.

MINOR COMMITTEE TO REPORT UPON CONDITION OF ROADS.—Wallaha Road, Mr. D. J. Maitland, Gorge Valley Road, Mr. J. E. B. Baillie Hamilton; Lindula Area Road.—Lin-Caledo-Gap, Mr. E. H. Walter; Caledoni-Holbrook, Mr. J. E. Tull; Holbrook-Diyagama, Mr. A. L. Gibson.

WEEDS IN ROADSIDE DRAINS.

The D. E. wrote as follows on the above subject:—

P. W. D. Office,
Dimbula, January 24th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

I would like to bring to your notice the general practice in the district of estate coolies throwing weeds, stones and prunings on to the road-way and into the drains. It is difficult for me to improve the surface of the roads if the drains are interfered with in this way.

I shall be much obliged if you can help me by bringing the matter up for discussion at your next general meeting, or when you think proper.

Yours faithfully,
J. K. MACBRIDE,
District Engineer.

INSURANCE ON THE RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN said some time ago a lady of the district lost certain wearing apparel on the railway. He took the matter up to see how they could avoid loss and the railway had sent them the following conditions—

1. The charge for insurance, which must be prepaid, is one per cent. on the value (minimum charge Re. 1), and is to be declared in writing at the time of booking.

2. Application for the insurance of any package valued at Rs. 500 or upwards is to be made to the General Manager, Colombo. Station-masters are authorised to accept insurance rate on packages valued at less than Rs. 500.

3. Before any packages for conveyance as luggage or parcels can be insured, the owner or sender must satisfy the officer in charge of the forwarding station that they are securely packed and sealed with a legible seal in such a manner as to prevent the packages being opened without breaking the seals. A declaration of the contents must also be given in writing.

4. The railway reserves the right of inspecting, before effecting any insurance, all packages delivered to them for insurance, to ascertain that the contents are in accordance with the declaration and are in good condition and well packed; also of calling upon the consignee to open the package at the station of destination.

The regulations caused some amusement, and one member enquired "Don't they want your birth certificate also." (Laughter.)

THE P. L. F.

The following correspondence was read, and on the suggestion of Mr. Bliss further action was deferred until the meeting of the Committee:—

November 29th, 1913.

DEAR SIR,

It would be obliging if you would kindly send me at your convenience a list of the estates with their acreages, brought up to, say, 30th November, 1913, who have joined the Proprietors' Labour Federation.

There are certain misapprehensions abroad and therefore I think you will agree that it is to the best interests of the Federa-

tion to be perfectly frank with each Association who look to the Parent Association for reliable information on this and kindred subjects.

Yours faithfully,
HUNTLEY WILKINSON,
Hon. Secretary,
Dimbula P. A.

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION OF CEYLON.

Proprietors' Labour Federation,
Kandy, December 1st, 1913.

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 29th November, I have much pleasure in sending you an up to date list of the estates belonging to the Proprietors' Labour Federation.

I have not got one printed with the acreages included, but these you can find on reference to the Directory, which varies very slightly, if at all, from the amounts stated by the various persons who have registered estates.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STILL,
Secretary.
December 18th, 1913.

DEAR SIR,

Your letter of 1st December, 1913. I have not as yet received the list mentioned in your letter. I could, as you say, work out the acreages but this would not be official.

Our Chairman thinks that it would be to the advantage of all concerned if you could let us have the exact figures on a given date from your official lists if you would be so kind.

Yours faithfully,
HUNTLEY WILKINSON.

The Proprietors' Labour Federation of Ceylon,
Kandy, December, 15th, 1913.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, and on reference to my Tappal book I find that a list of Federated estates was posted to you on that date. As this has failed to come to hand, I am today posting you another.

As I wrote to you on the 1st December, I have got no list printed with the acreages of each estate included.

I will lay your request before my Committee.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STILL,
Secretary.

LIQUID FUEL.

Owing to the shortage of liquid fuel and petrol at times the Chairman asked members to send in details of their total requirements, so that Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. could be asked to supply an adequate quantity.

THE CEYLON NURSING ASSOCIATION.

THE CHAIRMAN explained that through an oversight last year the Association's contribution of Rs. 50 was not paid (and not asked for.) The amount had now been collected by subscription, Mr. Mylius having initiated the list with a subscription of Rs. 25.

It was decided that the 1914 subscription of Rs. 50 be paid, and those gentlemen contributing the 1913 amount be heartily thanked for their kindness—Mr. Mylius especially.

A vote of thanks to the chair then concluded the meeting.

HAPUTALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

An annual general meeting of the above Association was held at the Haputale Resthouse on Tuesday, 27th January, at 1.30 p.m., preceded by a Committee Meeting. Those present were: Messrs. J. W. Hyde (Chairman), R. Coombe, W. Gibson, T. Hudson, R. J. Wyllie, J. R. H. B. T. Heathcote, W. A. Wilson, J. D. Thomson, A. J. J. O. H. Warren, P. de P. Carey, W. Rollo Cassie, F. Dowker, S. A. Michaels, E. H. S. Childe-Thomas, C. Munro and H. J. C. Prior (visitors), A. Allen, Hon. Secretary.

The usual formal business having been carried out, the annual report was read as follows:—

HAPUTALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL

REPORT FOR 1913.

Your Committee have pleasure in laying before you the 38th annual report. The number of estates on the register at the end of the year was 40, and there are two private members.

MEETINGS.—There have been one annual, three general, and six Committee Meetings. Your Committee regrets to state that these four meetings have not been so well attended as formerly.

FINANCE.—The financial position is very satisfactory, the balance at the end of the year being Rs. 332.20.

The official estimates for 1913-14 are as below:—

TEA.					
	Total acreage, lbs.	Acreage in bearing, lbs.	Est. crop lbs.	Crop in five years, lbs.	Yield per acre, lbs.
1913	20,936	19,302	10,675,125	180,550	510
1914	21,248½	19,732½	10,798,900	124,500	556

RUBBER.

	Total No. trees.	Trees in bearing.	Estimated crop, lbs.	Acreage.
1913	623,076	174,894	206,500	9,311
1914	422,161	148,988	294,500	3,035½

OTHER PRODUCTS.

Cocoa 10 cwts.

SEASON AND CROPS.—WEATHER.—The beginning of the year was very wet and the weather was unfavourable up to March. From May to September one of the worst droughts we have had was experienced. The N. E. was exceptionally mild.

CROPS.—Those have been slightly under what was expected, April, May and June were rather below normal. July and October poor. November and December normal.

PRICES.—Except, perhaps for fine teas, the prices realized have been good. The price of rubber has dropped lower than was expected a year ago.

ROADS.—The roads in the district have been kept in good order. All the worst corners are being cut back, and the roads opened on the Haputale-Bandarawella and Bandarawella-Lianawella roads. The Bandarawella-Welimade cart-road was opened this year. A new cart-road has been cut from Liangawella to Lunugalla estate and is now open to traffic.

RAILWAY.—Traffic was seriously interrupted in January by a large slip on Haputale estate, (which is erroneously known as the Roehampton slip), and one on Glenanore estate. The Haputale slip has given no trouble since, but at the same time it has

had no weather of the type of last year to test it. Your Committee feel that this spot is one which will always give cause for anxiety in a bad monsoon. There have been two slips the N. E. monsoon at the site of the Glenanore slip causing interruption in the traffic for three and two days respectively. Your Committee would desire to record their appreciation of the work done by the railway authorities during the past year.

GENERAL TRANSPORT.—Your Committee regret to report there has been no further progress made in connection with the proposed Kelburne-Haputale ropeway. Your Committee invited Mr. John Walker to give detail figures of the proposed scheme, which he did very fully. It is now up to the estates concerned to move in the matter.

PESTS.—Shot-hole borer seems to be spreading in the district and until suitable rules are framed to cope with this pest, your Committee regret no further steps can be taken. During the absence of Mr. Ormiston in England Mr. Hudson has been nominated a member of the Plant Pests Board.

LABOUR.—Your Committee are glad to state that labour on the whole has been satisfactory. Seventy per cent. of the estates in this district belong to the Proprietors' Labour Federation, and your Committee trust that, before long, the other thirty per cent. will see their way to joining.

LOSS ON RICE.—Your Committee are glad to state that this serious question is being gone into by a sub-Committee of the P.A. in Kandy.

DEPUTATION TO H.E. THE GOVERNOR.—A deputation was sent by this Association in July last, to meet, together with members of the Badulla and Passara Associations, H.E. the Acting Governor, matters connected with railway slips, delay in land sales, labour for Government works, transport, etc., were discussed.

COMBINED MEETING OF THE UVA P.A.'s.—In connection with a suggestion from the Passara P.A., your Committee have pleasure in recommending this Association should send representatives to meet those of the Badulla and Passara P.A.'s once a year, to discuss matters that affect this province.

HAPUTALE HOSPITAL.

Mr. J. W. Hyde reports on Haputale Hospital as follows:—

Visited September 5th, 1913. January 3rd, 1914.

The doctor was absent on calls on both my visits. Otherwise the full staff of D.M.A., apothecary, matron and attendant were all present. The number of patients under treatment were on September 5th: 15 males and six females. On January 3rd, 28 males and 4 females. On my last visit I found the male and ward overcrowded, there being only accommodation for 24 males.

The food appeared good and the quantity issued to each patient quite sufficient. There is no fresh milk available, so tinned milk is provided. Iron beds have been provided in the male surgical ward, and I hope will be provided throughout the hospital when funds are available. The buildings generally were in very good order, with the exception of the floors. These are especially noticeable in the kitchens where there are holes all over the place. The floor of the male surgical ward needs re-cementing. The grounds are tidy and well-kept.

I find there have been 30 cases of anchylostomiasis during the year, four of which proved fatal. The D.M.A. thinks this is below the average of former years.

From various unofficial visits paid during the year and the two official visits, it has struck me that the cases in hospital consists very largely of dysentery and chronic diarrhoea cases. On enquiry from the doctor he tells me the reason is that coolies allow these diseases to go on before they will take treatment, and by the time they do go to hospital their insides are worn out, and are therefore not answerable to treatment. With the discovery of Emetino, I think fewer cases of dysentery, &c., would ever reach hospital, if coolies would only take treatment at once. I am told that a permanent infectious disease hospital is to be built to replace the old temporary building.

Though the trees in front of the hospital are very picturesque, I think some of them should be cut out to let in more sun.

KOSLANDE HOSPITAL.

Mr. C. M. Durrant reports on Koslande hospital as follows:—

Visited December 11th, 1913.

D.M.O. was away on duty, so was shown round by apothecary.

Patients: No. of males 21; No. of beds 34. No. of females 14; No. of beds 16.

Wards were not overcrowded. Latrines and bathrooms in good order. As were the grounds.

The condition of the patients appeared satisfactory, and there were no complaints. Food appeared to be ample and well cooked.

A new female ward is required as this ward is invariably overcrowded, this being the first time I have visited the hospital and found it not so.

THE CHAIRMAN.

Mr. J. W. HYDE on vacating the chair moved the adoption of the report and thanked the members and Hon. Secretary for the support they had given him during his term of office.

Mr. R. C. COOMBE was voted to the chair temporarily, and spoke highly of the work done by the retiring Chairman and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to him and to the Hon. Secretary, which was carried unanimously.

OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1914.

CHAIRMAN: On the proposal of Mr. WYLLIE, seconded by the HON. SECRETARY, Mr. Wills was elected to the chair. Owing to the unavoidable absence of the new Chairman, through illness, it was proposed that Mr. Coombe should carry on the business of the day as Chairman.

HON. SECRETARY: Proposed by Mr. GIBSON and seconded by Mr. WYLLIE that Mr. Allen be re-elected as Hon. Secretary for 1914.

Other office-bearers were elected as follows:—

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

HAPUTALE DISTRICT.—Messrs. W. Gibson, W. A. Wilson, and A. Fellowes Gordon.

W. HAPUTALE DISTRICT.—Mr. E. H. S. Childes Thomas.

KOSLANDE DISTRICT.—Messrs. C. M. Durrant, S. A. Michels and W. Allan.

HALDUMULLA DISTRICT.—Messrs. J. B. Wyllie and J. R. Bell.

BANDARAWELLA DISTRICT.—Messrs. Cobham Grant and G. H. F. Lushington.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—The Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Messrs. W. Gibson, T. Hudson and S. B. Smith.

P. B. FUND.—Mr. S. B. Smith.

C. N. ASSOCIATION.—Mr. W. Gibson.

PLANT PESTS BOARD.—Mr. T. Hudson.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Haputale: Messrs. A. Fellowes Gordon and T. Hudson. Koslande: Messrs. C. M. Durrant and W. Allan.

AUDITOR.—Mr. R. G. Coombe.

P.R.C. MEMBER.—Messrs. S. B. Smith.

J.P., AND U.P.M.

As Mr. Hyde was shortly leaving for England, the Government Agent had written asking for the name of a member to act for him during his absence. It was proposed from the CHAIR that Mr. Hyde do continue to act as J.P., U.P.M. until he leaves for England and that Mr. C. Bayley be asked to act in this office from that date.—Carried.

Mr. HYDE proposed, seconded by Mr. WYLLIE, "That Government be written to and asked to appoint a deputy coroner for the Haputale District."

ACCOUNTS.

It was proposed from the CHAIR that the accounts for 1913 as submitted by the Hon. Secretary be received.—Carried.

Mr. B. J. WYLLIE proposed, seconded by Mr. P. de P. CAREY, "That, as the financial position of the Association was so satisfactory, Rs. 50 be voted as a donation, from the funds, to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals."—Carried.

COMBINED MEETING OF THE UVA P.A.'s.

The CHAIRMAN explained that a wrong impression had been created, in that rumour had it that the Badulla Passara and Haputale P.A.'s were to combine and form one Association. This was not the case. Three members were to be elected from each of the P.A.'s to meet and confer in matters of vital importance to the Province generally. It was proposed by Mr. GIBSON, and seconded by Mr. HYDE, "That the Chairman, Mr. Bell and Mr. Wyllie be the three members to represent this Association."—Carried.

ROADS.

With the exception of applications for an increase grant on two minor roads for repairs to bridges and culverts, no other matter came up for discussion in connection with roads.

RAILWAY.

Mr. WYLLIE speaking to his resolution, "That Government be asked to erect a station at Indulgashena Gap proposed, and Mr. Bell seconded, that a sub-Committee composed of Messrs. Bell, Scovell and himself be appointed to go into figures in connection with proposed station at Indulgashena and that these figures, together with their report, be submitted for the consideration of this Association, before any further action be taken in the matter.

KATTARAGAMA PILGRIMAGE RULES.

Mr. HYDE read a letter received from the Government Agent, Uva, in reply to a complaint from the former that many estate coolies are allowed to go to this Temple without passes. After some discussion it was proposed (1) "That the Government Agent be written to and thanked for the trouble he had taken in the matter." (2) "That this Association would welcome the suggested punishment of imprisonment to anyone found without passes at the Temple during the pilgrimage and would further suggest that copies of the rules embodying the proposed punishment be printed by Government in Tamil and circulated to all estates in the Province."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Secretary, P.A. *re* members wishing to join the Coast Agency suggesting that they should first join their respective District Associations. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Hon. Secretary of the Parent Association supporting this proposal.

Read letter from the Secretary, P.A. *re* the delay in payment of subscriptions, which are due on the first of January.

Read letter from the G.A. *re* the prevalence of Surra (Palawakelle).

Read resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P.A. *re* Coast Agency, which was supported.

Read letter from Kotmale P.A. As these matters have already been up for discussion at the Parent Association at Kandy, it was decided that no steps need be taken on the matter.

Mr. WILSON proposed, seconded by Mr. WYLLIE, that this Association do fall into line with other Associations in requesting that Ragama accounts be rendered monthly, as the present irregular way of rendering accounts causes great inconvenience."—Carried.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Smith the resolution standing in his name *re* a European doctor, had been postponed till the next meeting.

Mr. R. G. COOMBE, after speaking very strongly on the disgraceful condition of the Bandarawella cemetery, that there was no protection for same from the ravages of animals, it being simply on an open Patna, proposed, seconded by the Hon. Secretary, "That this Association request the Bandarawella Local Board to take steps to properly enclose the cemetery of that town." Other members spoke very strongly on this matter and the motion was unanimously carried.

The meeting then closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the chair.

MATALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Matale Planters' Association was held at the Borron Memorial Hall on Saturday, the 31st January, at 2 p.m., preceded by a Committee Meeting at 1 p.m. Mr. A. Thorp presided and the following were present:—Messrs. H. D. Garrick, Jas. Anderson, J. B. Tennant, Joseph Malcomson, E. M. LeFevre, F. W. Brockham, C. Ross Wright, E. M. Biggs, H. L. Hey, M. E. Waddilove, John Taylor, C. J. Hutchinson, C. Tribe, Gerald Abbot, G. P. Kelly, Bruce Westland, W. B. Thomson, W. H. Fitz Patrick, W. Innes Short, L. Hayden, R. P. Gorton, N. Budd Wilson, H. W. Kers, G. C. H. Gordon (visitor), and H. S. Cameron (Hon. Secretary).

The Hon. SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

VOTES OF CONDOLENCE.

THE LATE MR. B. H. JENKYNs AND MR. HODGSON BELL.

The CHAIRMAN said: Before proceeding with the business of the day I wish to place on record the deep regret felt at the loss of two more of our members by death. Mr. B. H. Jenkyns was our Hon. Secretary ten years ago and was one of our original members. I propose that the Hon. Secretary do write and convey to Mrs. Jenkyns our sympathy and appreciation of his work to this Association. Mr. Hodgson Bell (for some time Chairman of this Association) was a regular attendant at the meetings here and in Kandy, and was an earnest worker of the various Committees and he was never known to miss a meeting. I propose a vote of condolence be passed and forwarded to Mrs. Bell at the great and irreparable loss sustained by the death of her husband.

Both proposals were passed, the members standing.

SALE OF LANDS.

Notices of sales of land were submitted.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT CIRCULARS.

The following circulars from the Veterinary Surgeon were placed on the table:—

ANTHRAX.

This is a contagious disease, principally affecting cattle, but it may be communicated to all animals. Human beings may be inoculated, especially those engaged in making *post mortems* or skinning dead cattle. It is caused by the microbe, the *Bacillus Anthracis*, which is found in the blood immediately after death in the form of short rods.

SYMPTOMS AND PREVENTION.

The attack and death is usually very sudden. An animal left well a few hours previously is found dead or dying; often blood oozes from the nostrils and anus. After death the carcass rapidly swells and blood oozes from the nostrils and anus. In such cases suspicion should be aroused and precaution taken. The carcass should not be opened or blood allowed to contaminate the ground. It should be burned, if possible; if not, buried deeply, with quick-lime or disinfectants. Contaminated soils should be scraped off and buried with the carcass. The shed floor should be covered with strong disinfectant solution. Usually cases occur singly and the disease does not spread if such precautions are taken.

DIAGNOSIS.

For diagnosis one ear may be pricked after death, "before decomposition sets in," and one small drop of blood smeared very thinly on a glass microscopic slide, or failing this, a piece of thin window glass. The smear must be transparent: it will be dry in a minute or two. It should be wrapped in a piece of clean white paper, packed in a small tin, and forwarded to the Government Veterinary Surgeon, Colombo. No treatment is of any avail.

G. W. STURGEON, M.R.C.V.S., Government Veterinary Surgeon.

SURRA (TRYPANOSOMIASIS.)

This is a disease due to presence in the blood of small eel-like parasites (*Trypanosoma Wansi*). Both cattle and horses are affected, and sometimes dogs. The parasites develop in periods, each invasion resulting in fever and more weakness and emaciation.

The disease is spread by means of *biting flies*, which are commonly found around stables and cattle sheds, and breed in decaying manure.

SYMPTOMS.

HORSES.—Fever, weakness, dropsical swelling about the sheath and abdomen, weakness of the loins, and staggering gait. These may pass off and return again in two or three weeks. Each attack leaves the animal weaker and more emaciated, until after two or three attacks the animal dies.

CATTLE.—The disease is more chronic than in horses. Fever, roughness of the coat, emaciation, whiteness of the membranes of the eye (anæmia) the animal presenting a miserable wasted appearance. Paralysis of hind quarters may occur. Death may result from exhaustion, or in convulsions.

DIAGNOSIS.

At the time of high fever, in the case of cattle one ear may be pricked and a thin transparent smear of blood made on a glass microscopic slide. In the case of the horse, a small cut with a pair of scissors may be made in the skin of the chest, and a smear of blood made. The slides should be allowed to dry, be wrapped in clean white paper separately, and forwarded to the Government Veterinary Surgeon, Colombo.

TREATMENT AND PREVENTION.

At present treatment is of little avail, and only carried out under expert supervision. It consists in the prolonged administration of arsenic.

Efforts should be made to reduce the biting flies by thoroughly cleaning away all manure from the sheds and spreading lime. Animals should be protected from the flies by every means possible. Fly papers may be used in the sheds and any harmless substance distasteful to flies tightly smeared on the animal's skin such as:—

Margosa oil	...	20 parts
Kerosine oil	...	1 part
Camphor	...	1 part
Citronella oil	...	1 part

especially about the legs, which the flies appear to attack most.

RED WATER (PIROPLASMOSIS).

This disease, also called "Tick Fever," is due to the presence of parasites (piroplasms) in the blood.

SYMPTOMS.

High fever, constipation, anemia, emaciation. The urine is commonly red or brownish-red, or yellow colour. The disease is transmitted by ticks, and efforts should be made to keep animals free from ticks, especially imported cattle. As in the case of surra, blood smears should be sent for diagnosis when the fever is high.

G. W. STRANGESS, M.B.O.V.S., Government Veterinary Surgeon.

THE CEYLON P. A. MEETING.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Secretary of the Parent Association with reference to the forthcoming annual meeting to be held on the 5th instant at 2-30 p.m. The letter stated that matters of considerable importance will be brought forward for discussion, and a good attendance was requested. It pointed out the necessity of sending in subscriptions in time as no one will be allowed to vote unless subscription has been duly paid.

Mr. H. D. GARRICK: Might I ask how votes are to be recorded, as at the last meeting there was some trouble in this connection.

The HON. SECRETARY.—At first it was required to send in the names of estates but now names of voters must be sent. I have sent three lists, which will satisfy all requirements and obviate trouble on this matter.

KANDY CEMETERY.

With reference to this matter the Hon. Secretary read a letter from Mr. Shand with reference to his letter published in the Press. Mr. Shand wished gentlemen would note

any points of interest. He further stated that the names of subscribers and members were wanted, and that booklets and forms connected with the subject would be sent.

The HON. SECRETARY said that he sent out a list but received no contribution. He hoped they had sent their contributions to the National Bank, Kandy. The Subscription was limited to Rs. 5. They knew the cemetery was in bad state. He had taken the trouble to visit the Cemetery and was glad to announce that suitable work had been done. He hoped this deserving matter would receive the support.

NEW MEMBERS.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Superintendent of Vicarton Estate stating that that estate would join the Association, and Mr. Abbot said that Millawa estate would join as from 1st January.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

The HON. SECRETARY announced that Mr. Waddilo had been able to secure the necessary guarantee for obtaining a telegraph office at Elkadua.

Mr. M. E. WADDILOVE: I approached the P.M. on the subject as decided at the last meeting. I received a reply from the P. M. G. to the effect that a guarantee Rs. 1,000 was essential and that Government was prepared to take up half the sum.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you got the guarantee from the estates?

Mr. WADDILOVE: Yes! I wish the matter to go through the Association.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you the guarantee ready and signed?

Mr. WADDILOVE: I have got the letters from the interested estates.

The HON. SECRETARY thought certain forms would have to be filled up and signed and that he would write to them.

Mr. WADDILOVE proposed:—"That the required guarantee having been assured. Government be asked to open a telegraph office at Elkadua with the least possible delay."

Mr. H. L. ANLEY seconded.—Carried unanimously.

J. P., U. P. M.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. W. Southorn, A. G. A., Matale, stating that Mr. Jas. Anders having resigned a vacancy had occurred in the office of Justice of the Peace and Unofficial Police Magistrate for Matale district, and requesting the Association to recommend a successor, whose name might be submitted to His Excellency the Governor for consideration.

Mr. H. D. GARRICK proposed the name of Mr. J. F. Brockman.

Mr. J. B. TENNANT seconded.—Carried unanimously.

DR. HUNT'S VISIT.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from Dr. Hunt informing them that he would be visiting Kepitigalla and would be glad to visit any other estate if desired.

A number of those present gave the names of their estates.

LIQUID FUEL.

The HON. SECRETARY said: You will remember Mr. Anderson brought a resolution as regards the very unsatisfactory way in which the local Liquid Fuel Installation applies this very essential article to estates, very often no liquid fuel being procurable in Matale affecting the working of estate factories seriously. Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. attributed the cause to want of sufficient tank wagons on the railway to convey liquid fuel. A long correspondence ensued with the General Manager, C. G. R. Mr. GARRICK wished to know the result.

It was thought unnecessary to read the correspondence.

THE MATALE TRAIN ARRANGEMENT.

The HON. SECRETARY said that in reply to the request of the Association to the General Manager to obtain a connection of the last train from Kandy (5 p.m.) with the afternoon train from Colombo (2 p.m.) the following letter was received:—

I. S. CAMERON Esq.,
Syston, Matale.

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office,
Colombo 6th January, 1914.

With reference to your letter of the 26th November, 1913, which, I regret, has not been replied to earlier, I am sorry that I cannot for some time to come and arrange for the late train from Kandy to Matale to be put on again. The progress of the repairs to the serious breaches on that line is not sufficiently advanced to make it desirable to run night trains over the line.

You are aware of how serious the breaches were and though work is being pushed on as quickly as possible a great deal still remains to be done.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

Mr. H. D. GARRICK: They have done and are doing all they can.

It was thereupon proposed to write and thank the General Manager for his letter and to express the hope that he would soon find it possible to run this train.

THE NORTH ROAD. DEATH-TRAPS.

In connection with the resolution brought forward by Mr. Abbot and passed at the last meeting with reference to the North Road, the following letter was read by the Hon. Secretary.

Matale, 17th December, 1913.

To H. S. CAMERON Esq.,
Syston, Ukuwella.

I have the honour to state that I noticed the unsatisfactory lighting, etc., of this place about the time of your letter and gave orders to have it attended to.

I should like to make a request through your Association to the planters whose estates border on the public roads that they keep

the branches of the trees and fence at the roadside cut back as I find that in many places the roads are badly overgrown and this is detrimental to the roads and the traffic.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

F. G. STEVENS, D.E.

The CHAIRMAN: I don't quite understand this letter. What was complained of was that there was no protection and light at the obstruction and that it was a death-trap and not that the lighting was unsatisfactory. As regards the trees, they belonged to the P.W.D. In some cases they belonged to us. Anyhow Government should see to this and pay the resultant expenses.

Mr. GARRICK said he did not think cocoa and other such trees were meant.

The CHAIRMAN thought the damages referred to were from "Ingasaman" and other shade trees.

Mr. TAYLOR: The letter spoke of branches and fences!

Mr. HAYDEN: If the P.W.D. thought they had removed one death-trap I have to bring to the notice of the meeting that they have set up another death-trap which is equally danerous, if not more than the others.

The CHAIRMAN. Where?

Mr. HAYDEN: Between Sudugange and the Rattota turn off. The obstruction has been in the course of repairs for two months and a deal of mud has been thrown on the road. They cut the road up first and then look for stones, instead of first providing the materials necessary for so important a work.

The CHAIRMAN: The D.E. should be written to on the subject.

Mr. HAYDEN: I should think the attention of the Provincial Engineer should be drawn to this matter.

The CHAIRMAN advised proposing a resolution.

Mr. HAYDEN then proposed the following resolution:—

That the attention of the P. E. be called to the delay in finishing the two new culverts between the Rattota turn off and the Sudugange bridge and an assurance be asked of the probable date of the completion of these works in the nearest possible future.

Mr. C. J. HUTCHINSON seconded.

The CHAIRMAN: Any objection?

SEVERAL MEMBERS: None whatever.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. GARRICK: I hear from a private source that our present D. E. is to be removed to Colombo and that Mr. A. C. B. Jonklaas of Kegalle is to succeed him.

WATTEGAMA-UKUWELLA NEW ROAD.

The HON. SECRETARY said that he wrote asking for the date of opening the new road and received a reply from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary that the Ukuwella-Wattegama Road was opened for through traffic on the 1st January.

The CHAIRMAN did not think they could call the road opened. The D. E. had pulled up a culvert and one had to go half way to Ballacada and then take the Kalalpitiya Road. The whole thing he considered a piece of bad management. It took the authorities a pretty long time.

Mr. MALCOMSON said he heard that the road beyond Ukuwella had been closed for two months.

The CHAIRMAN: We might draw the attention of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to the fact that the road is not opened.

Mr. GARRICK: It has been opened.

Mr. C. ROSS WRIGHT said that they had been told the Ukuwella-Wattegama Road had been opened. They started at one end of the road. They should have started at the Ukuwella end. They said they have opened the road, but as a matter of fact they had closed it at one end. It might be that some of those present had found it possible to ride or motor through the road, but the road, he asserted, had had not been completely opened, and to say that it had was a perfect fallacy. He thought it would be some three months before it was ready.

The CHAIRMAN: We will consider it opened but not completed.

Mr. ROSS WRIGHT: I don't think you can consider it opened. The authorities have been at this work for three or four years, and it is not complete yet.

Mr. E. M. BIGGS: The cart road as far as Ukuwella has been opened, that is Wattegama to Ukuwella. At Ukuwella work is going on in the construction of a crossing over the Railway line. The P. W. D. have, however, blocked the road from Ukuwella to Ukuwella Factory. This portion is unfit for traffic, it being impossible to ride even a motor bike. At first there were about four coolies working on this portion, but now I see no coolies and there is no prospect of through traffic being resumed for two or three months. There is no metal, the road is pulled up and there is three feet of mud. They have taken three years over this road, and only the P. W. D. know how long it will take to give us this road.

The CHAIRMAN then suggested asking the Secretary to write to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to the effect that this Association, while accepting his statement that the road had been opened, wish to express the opinion that, as far as Matale is concerned, it is quite useless until the Ukuwella railway crossing and culvert are completed.

LABOUR.

The HON. SECRETARY said that Mr. Tenant's resolution re delayed cooly bills from Ragama had been taken up by the Parent Association at Kandy and he thought the result was satisfactory, for he hoped bills would, in future, be submitted in time.

The Hon. Secretary submitted the accounts for the past year showing a good credit balance, and these were passed. A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Garrick for auditing same.

The following report for the year submitted and passed:—

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1913.

During 1913 subscriptions paid amounted to 81 compared with 86 in 1912. The resignation of some private members and of one estate accounts for the decrease.

The FINANCES of the Association are in a satisfactory condition and show a credit balance of Rs. 222.61. During the year four general meetings have been held, preceded on each occasion by the usual Committee meeting. The attendance at all the meetings was eminently satisfactory, evidencing a keen interest in the proceedings and in the affairs of the district. So far as the general well-being of the district is concerned the past year has been anything but good owing to the phenomenal and exceedingly badly distributed rainfall. During January the rainfall was excessive throughout the month and during the 24 hours of January 17th, the rainfall varied between 9 inches and over 20 inches throughout the district.

ROADS, BRIDGES, CULVERTS, part of the railway, paddy fields and in one case, a cocoa store, were destroyed, and traffic was held up for a considerable period.

Again in October a similar deluge occurred averaging about 12 inches in the 24 hours, but, as it fell more gradually than the January downpour, not so much damage was done. The rainfall continued, more or less, excessively throughout November and December, whilst, in contrast to this visitation, the period between January and October was one of the driest on record.

This abnormal weather throughout the year without a doubt adversely affected all crops in lower part of the district. Generally speaking, the results have been poor as regards tea and cocoa. In respect to the lower parts of the valley, which may be taken as representing the average, the rainfall of the year has totalled no less than 117 inches which is certainly a record for the past twenty years. In that period a rainfall over 100 inches has been recorded only six times, the highest being 107 inches in 1891. The higher parts of the district harvested a good tea crop.

LABOUR cannot by any stretch of imagination be called satisfactory or sufficient. Advances are still on the increase, and very few estates can be said to be full of labour. However, cost of production of rubber is steadily decreasing.

THE PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION has not so far succeeded in including a workable majority of the estates in the district to join and several of big companies' properties still stand out.

HEALTH.—During the last three months of excessive rain the health of the coolies and villagers has been very bad in the lower parts of the valley. There has been a phenomenal visitation of malarial fevers which was at once followed by an epidemic of fever of the most virulent type. The result of this has been a serious shortage of available labour which, on all low-lying estates, has somewhat retarded the working programme being carried out.

ROADS.—During the past two years the District Road Committee had in hand a large balance of available funds, which was chiefly spent on road improvement. The phenomenal rainfall of the past year has not only destroyed all the good work done, but will necessitate probably two years' future income being spent entirely on repairs before the roads and paths can be restored to normal condition. The main roads under the P. W. D. have also suffered excessively, and, owing to their chronic shortness of labour, the repair work has fallen far short of completion at the time of issuing this report. Owing to the faulty foundations in the buttresses the bridge over the Nalanda Oya at Paldeniya on the Palapatawala Galawala road was broken down by the January floods, and various other bridges on the other roads were washed away. Some of these bridges have not yet been replaced.

The much discussed road between Ukuwella and Wattegama was to be open early in 1914. Much of the delay was due to the fact that the ironwork of the big bridge over the river near Kuruwita was found on delivery, to be a misfit for the standing buttresses. It must not be forgotten that the estates through which the road passes gave their land free for the purpose, while Government paid for the native land involved.

TELEPHONES.—This subject was brought up once more, and the district was circularised to ascertain the amount of support likely to be forthcoming, but the number of estates that signified their wish for the installation was so small, and they were so scattered, that the matter has been shelved again for the present.

LICENSED TAVERNS.—Several of these have been moved elsewhere from previous undesirable situations. No specific complaints have been laid before the Association concerning any of the taverns so it may be presumed that they are working satisfactorily.

CRIME.—Cases of serious crime have been unusually numerous during the year, while thefts of produce and property have occurred on several occasions. A considerable number of cases of housebreaking have taken place both in Matale town and in the villages. A very bad case of theft of cocoa from a sealed wagon in the railway goods yard also occurred, but unfortunately no conviction was secured.

TEA.—The product made a fairly satisfactory recovery during the year after the excessive droughts of the previous two years. The effects of the droughts in 1910 and 1911 are still shown in the low lying parts of the district by the number of vacancies, but this refers to only a very small portion of the tea acreage. Another factor accounting for loss of crop in the considerable acreage, of more or less poor tea now interplanted with rubber, and doomed to go out at no distant period. Shot-hole borer is bad in parts of the district. No figures as to crop returns are available for this report owing to the laxity of superintendents of estates in not replying to the circulars. Prices throughout the year have been satisfactory.

COCOA.—The crop of 1912 was, generally speaking, a record one. The January rain caused a high percentage of black cocoa in that month and ruined the spring crop, while the drought in August and September entirely spoiled a promising autumn crop. In consequence yields for 1913 were very low. Prices were very satisfactory throughout the year.

The reduction in the indiscriminate granting of cocoa licenses has acted as a great check to the serious loss previously sustained by theft.

RUBBER is undoubtedly giving satisfactory returns, though, for reasons given in the paragraph on tea, no figures can be quoted in this report. The growth all round is good and planted acreage is still increasing. Tapping in general shows improvement; bark renewal when aided by cultivation is satisfactory. The drop in the price of rubber has been felt by Matale in common by other districts. The Colombo rubber sales have been a complete success and are very largely supported.

CARDAMOMS.—The condition of this product is peculiar. For several years past crops have been steadily declining and the generally accepted opinion was that this is due to "old age" but, seeing that the decrease obtaining in both old and young stools, even in young fields that should still be on the steady increase, this reason can hardly account for the present state of things entirely. Prices remain high and a certain amount of cutting out and replanting old stools has been, and is being done, but, generally speaking, the tendency is towards decrease of acreage under this product and little jungle remains available for new plantings.

COCONUTS, PEPPER AND CROTON continue to yield satisfactorily. Coconut plantations are extending in the northern parts of the district. The price of coconuts remains high, but pepper and croton have both declined considerably. The past year's crop of pepper was very low compared with 1912.

The hospital was twice visited during the year by those members appointed to that duty.

Conditions in general were found satisfactory except in December, when the visitors found the place very overcrowded, there being 175 patients in the wards, but only 123 beds. A temporary ward is now being erected, however, which will relieve the congestion somewhat, but it is to be hoped that the additional accommodation will be made permanent in the near future to cope with such visitations as the present terrible wave of sickness. Another room is being added to the nurses' quarters.

Dr. E. Langley Hunt, C.M.G., Itinerating Medical Officer, attended our meeting in September and addressed the Association on body line sanitation. He also visited several estates in the district and made suggestions re line improvements and water supplies. The practical nature of his recommendations and his realization of

the difficulties of the situation have made the planting community most ready to avail themselves of his services.

OBITUARY.—During the past year the district has lost two of its resident planters, both of whom had identified themselves with this Association. Mr. James Westland was one of our oldest members and while health permitted a most regular attendant at all meetings both of our Associations and of the Kandy Committee—his enthusiasm knew no bounds and neither time, trouble, nor expense were considered if he thought he could benefit the planting community.

Mr. Jenkyns was for some time our secretary. He resigned this position over ten years ago. Since then, though often not resident in the district, he always continued his membership and, when here, generally attended our meeting.

MR. THORP RETIRES.

Mr. THORP said the annual report was such a full complete one that he had little or nothing to add. He thanked the members and the members of the various Committees and the hospital visitors for their work in connection with the business of the Association for the good of the district. Last but not least he wished to thank Mr. Cameron, the Hon. Secretary. He therefore vacated the chair.

Mr. TENNANT proposed Mr. Jas. Anderson to the chair *pro tem*.

Mr. GARRICK seconded.

Mr. ANDERSON, on taking the chair, proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman, which was passed amid applause.

Mr. ANDERSON suggested that Mr. Thorp should be asked to occupy the chair for the current year too.

Mr. GARRICK seconded.

Mr. THORP thanked the meeting for re-electing him, but regretted that he was not able to take up the post again. He much appreciated the honour, but he had so much work to do that he could not possibly undertake to be their Chairman this year also.

Mr. CAMERON: It is usual for the Chairman to continue at least for two years.

Mr. THORP: I am sorry I cannot do so. I wish to propose that the Hon. Secretary should be elected as the Chairman for the current year.

Mr. H. D. GARRICK seconded.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. GARRICK proposed that Mr. J. F. W. Brockman be appointed Secretary in place of Mr. Cameron. He said that having been Chairman for a long time he knew the usefulness of having a Secretary living close. Mr. Brockman lived close to Mr. Cameron and had a motor-car, and this would be advantageous and facilitate work. Mr. Brockman had stood out long enough and it was high time now that he should come forward.

Mr. J. B. TENNANT seconded.

Mr. BROCKMAN hoped some one else could be found for the post.

Mr. GARRICK: I am sure we all wish him to be our Secretary.

Mr. BROCKMAN agreeing, he was unanimously elected.

THE COMMITTEE.

The following Committee was appointed for the different parts of the district:—

MATALE NORTH.—Messrs. J. C. Tribe, R. P. Gorton, A. Thorp, and Geo. A. Greig.

MATALE EAST.—Messrs. W. J. Westland, C. A. Evans, G. V. Neave, E. M. LeFeuvre and C. J. Hutchinson.

MATALE SOUTH.—Messrs. H. D. Garrick, Jas. Anderson, H. Storey, John Taylor, J. S. M. Arnold, and E. M. Biggs.

MATALE WEST.—Messrs. J. B. Tennant, E. Gordon Reeves, J. L. Hayden, D. A. Steele, and Gerald Abbot.

ELKADUWA.—Messrs. M. E. Waddilove and H. L. Anley.

MATALE TOWN.—Messrs. Dan. Joseph and J. A. M. Bond.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—The Chairman, Secretary, and Messrs. Jas. Anderson, H. D. Garrick, A. Thorp, and Gerald Abbot.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. A. Thorp and Jas. Anderson.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Jas. Anderson and Harry Storey.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. H. D. Garrick.

With the usual vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated.

RANGALLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above Association was held at the Ferndale drill-shed on Saturday, the 7th February, at 2 p.m. Present:—Messrs. W. Sinclair, E. R. Cox, W. L. Polson, C. B. Clay, R. H. Ellis, H. B. T. Boucher, R. W. Lindsay-White, visitors: Messrs. M. P. Fraser, E. L. Fraser, J. A. Tate, and T. L. Besant.

The notice calling the meeting was read, and the minutes of the general meeting held on 22nd November last were confirmed.

The annual report for 1913 was then read as follows:—

MEETINGS.—During the year there have been two general meetings at which the attendance was fair.

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 19 estates on the register.

FINANCE.—The balance-sheet shows a credit balance of Rs. 170.03 as follows:—To the credit of the Rangalla P.A., Rs. 109.10; telephone upkeep, Rs. 15.93; Tunisgalla estate, Rs. 45.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—There are six estates and two private subscribers. Considering the good work done by the P.B.F. more estates should join.

WEATHER AND CROPS.—The year 1913 will always be remembered on account for its floods, if for nothing else. Flood followed flood, each one beating all previous records, and much damage was done to roads and railways and the country generally. This district suffered equally with the rest of the Island. The excessive rainfall affected the crops and most estates were short of their estimates. Prices, however, have kept up helping to compensate for the shorter crops.

RUBBER.—Many estates in the district are now busy cutting this product out where it has been planted in the tea, and Duck-

wari estate is one of the few in the district which can show rubber doing well.

CARDAMOMS.—The exports for 1913 will reach 450,000 lbs. (which was the quantity estimated for the year). This is the shortest crop for many years, and it is not expected that 1914 will show any improvement, as some of the older fields have gone out of bearing, and there is no fresh land available for this product. The weather during 1913 has not been suitable for cardamoms; a heavy rain fell during January and again in October, which was followed by prolonged droughts that prevented the blossom from setting. The shipment to Norway, Sweden, Turkey and United States show a marked increase over 1912. Prices for the year have been satisfactory. In Colombo bleached cardamoms fetched from Rs. 2.50 up to Rs. 3.50 per pound, whilst London averages were from 3s. 9½d. to 5s. 1d. Best grades fetched up to 6s. 5d. per pound. Green dried cardamoms fetched from Rs. 2.05 up to Rs. 2.66 per pound. Your Committee is of the opinion that unless some ordinance is provided to protect cardamom growers against the continual thieving which is still going on, Government must be held responsible for the consequence, as already an instance has taken place of one Sinhalese man shooting another for cardamom thieving.

PLANT PESTS.—Shot-hole borer continues to spread, and it is the opinion of your Committee that the planting community is taking this pest far too lightly. From other pests the district remains comparatively free.

LABOUR.—During the year the good ship P.L.F. was re-fitted after sundry repairs. There are still many leaks, however, but once these are stopped great things must come of it, and it is to be hoped that all will join in order to give it a fair chance. There is to be a general meeting in April when all will have an opportunity to air their views.

ROADS.—The year has been a trying one for roads of all descriptions, but in spite of these unfavourable conditions the P.W.D. have managed to keep the main roads in very fair order generally, but the portion of the road between culverts No. 125 to 138 on the Teldeniya-Kandy road is in bad order and the metal broken. The 1913 is not yet laid. The road from Pallekelle to the Dumbas Valley bridge is continually in bad order. The new bridge over the Galmaloya was washed away in January but has now been re-erected.

DISTRICT ROADS have had the usual attention paid to them and are in fair order.

TRANSPORT.—1913 will always be a historical one for this district if not for the island in general owing to the fact that the long promised mechanical transport became an accomplished fact. The mechanical transport in this district, however, has so far been carried on merely as an experiment by Government and they have now come to the conclusion that the business is not in their hands and they are to leave it to private enterprise in other districts. Valuable figures, however, are being collected which your Committee hope will be available to the public when wanted. The lorries on the Rangalla road have now been running for nearly a year with apparently less damage to the roads than formerly caused by cart-transport, and the total weight of these lorries fully loaded is 4½ tons.

HOSPITAL.—One of your unofficial visitors being on leave on one report is attached. The general health of the coolies has been good.

MR. W. SINCLAIR'S REPORT.

I visited the Teldeniya hospital on the 3rd February, and found everything clean and in order. The wards were not overcrowded and there were no complaints. The temporary ward should be pulled down and a proper ward built, this will no doubt be attended to by the Medical Wants Committee.

CRIME.—Your Committee regret to report that the Ordinance regarding cardamom thefts has not advanced beyond the initial stage and are of the opinion that an Ordinance to check the ever increasing cardamom thieving which goes on is still one of the most pressing needs of the district.

EXCISE.—The new scheme is still on its trial and cannot be expected to work miracles in so short a time, but as far as the district is concerned it has done little, so far, to lessen the illicit sale of liquor to our coolies, and the Excise officer's attention should be led to this fact.

TELEPHONES.—These are now working satisfactorily, but your Committee is of the opinion that until the lines are run on more permanent supports there will always be trouble with them during the monsoons, and would suggest that a few iron standards be erected each year. The charge of 15 cents for telephoning telegrams was dropped during the year, and your Committee consider that owing to the immense increase in business due to the telephones that Government might reduce their charge of Rs. 18 for a line to a more nominal sum.

VOLUNTEERING.—A great deal more interest has been taken in volunteering during the year and several of the detachments which had disappeared showed up again with renewed vigour and strength.

Your Committee hope that this enthusiasm will continue as the usefulness and necessity for volunteers has of late been well proved.

The CHAIRMAN then moved the adoption of the report which was carried. The Chairman then retired and Mr. Sinclair was asked to take the chair *pro tem*.

Mr. SINCLAIR in a few well chosen words asked the meeting to pass a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hall Brown for the hard work he had put in during the year on their behalf.—Carried.

Mr. CLAY then proposed that Mr. Hall Brown should be re-elected Chairman for this year, and was seconded by Mr. ELLIS.

Mr. HALL BROWN, as an amendment, proposed that Mr. Boucher be asked to take the chair. He pointed out that Mr. Boucher had occupied the position before in other associations with much success.

Mr. BOUCHER, however, refused owing to too much work, and Mr. Clay's proposal being put to the meeting it was carried unanimously.

Mr. HALL BROWN then took the chair and thanked the meeting for the compliment paid him, and promised to do his best for the Association.

The CHAIRMAN then asked for their permission not to elect a Secretary and pointed out that in a small Association like theirs it was easier for the work to be carried on by one man. This was allowed. The following office-bearers were then elected:—

COMMITTEE.—Messrs. W. Sinclair, C. B. Clay, R. W. Lindsay-White, W. L. Polson, P. A. Williams, H. B. T. Boucher, A. H. Kerr, E. R. Cox, R. H. Ellis and J. P. Burke.

KANDY REPRESENTATIVES.—Messrs. W. Sinclair, Boucher and Clay.

P.B.F. REPRESENTATIVE.—Mr. Clay.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Secretary, P.L.F., dated 26th November last.

Read a circular from the Government Agent, C.P., asking for information regarding any alterations in the areas of Tea, Cocoa, and Rubber in the district since July last. The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that he had replied that there were no alterations, which was agreed to.

Read a letter from the Secretary, P.A., re would-be subscribers to the Coast Agency being first asked to join their district Association. It was resolved that this was most desirable.

Read a letter from the Hon. Secretary, P.A., enclosing a copy of a letter from the Hon. Secretary of the Estate Agents' Association re the resolution to be brought up at the next general meeting of the P.A. concerning the raising of the contribution to the Coast Agency.

It was the unanimous opinion of those present that the resolution should be expressed in the words of the second suggestion.

MOTOR TRACTION.

The Chairman reminded the members that at their last meeting they had passed a resolution to ask Government whether sufficient lorries were to be put on the road to carry the whole of the produce of the district and he then read the Colonial Secretary's reply as follows:—

Sir,—With reference to your letter dated 26th November, 1918, forwarding a resolution passed by your Association with regard to motor-lorry traffic, I am directed to inform you that on full consideration of the matter Government has come to the conclusion that the practical difficulties in the way of running a Government motor-lorry service preclude the adoption of that system, and that the Governor is advised that the general body of planting opinion agrees that such transport should be left to private enterprise.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. A. YOUNG,

for Colonial Secretary.

After much discussion Mr. ELLIS proposed, and was seconded by Mr. POLSON, the following resolution:—"That in view of the above letter this Association regrets that Government are apparently not going to fulfil the promises made by Sir Henry McCallum."

TELEPHONES.

The CHAIRMAN said that with their permission he would call a meeting of the Telephone Committee and go into the question of more permanent support for their wires.

DISTRICT ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN asked those members who were responsible for the minor roads in the districts to try and get the work done earlier in the year. He said that some of the applications for the grant had come in so late last year that they had run the risk of losing them.

He also reminded members that the applications for any special grants must be made at once.

Mr. Boucher was then asked to speak to the following resolution standing in his name, viz:—"That in the opinion of this Association it is unnecessary to close the Tappal at Rangalla before 5 p.m."

Mr. BOUCHER said that since sending in that resolution he had found out that their letters were not despatched by the ordinary night mail, but by a train which left Kandy about 11 o'clock, and as he did not wish to in any way interfere with the early arrival of their letters in Colombo he asked for permission to withdraw his resolution, which was granted.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

J. HALL BROWN.
Hon. Secretary, Rangalla, P.A.

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The Planting Gazette

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

L. II.]

APRIL, 1914.

[No. 2



Editorial Notes

The Planters of South India are paying us the compliment of forming a Labour Commission on lines similar to our own. But where Ceylon Proprietors are shrinking from sing their rate of subscription to 45 cents for each cultivated acre, our rivals, more boldly, are to start with a cess Rs. 2 per acre. Let us hope that this signifies that our need is less urgent than theirs, and not that our courage or resources are inferior. There appears to be considerable diversity of opinion in this Island regarding our requirements, and while some authorities state that our labour troubles have greatly relaxed and that internal economy all that is required to place conditions on a permanently sound footing, others greatly deplore our want of enterprise and lack of foresight. The truth probably lies between.

It is not possible yet to foresee what will be the ultimate result of linking Ceylon with South India by Railway. It is just possible that this may result in a greater movement of coolies backwards and forwards to our detriment. Or it may bring about a gradual settlement of Tamils in the Northern Plain of Ceylon and so provide us with a reserve of labour on this side of the Straits. If it does this, the question of rice supply may be immensely improved by the opening of fields under the ancient irrigation systems which have recently been restored. It requires statesmanlike handling by Government, for inducements to possible settlers are at present entirely lacking. It is the dream of some of the ablest Civil Servants in Ceylon to create a Land Department embracing the present Land Settlement, Forest, Survey, Irrigation and Agricultural Departments, and co-ordinating their work harmoniously. This is a great idea and one which we could rejoice to see carried out. But the wheels of Government move very slowly, and an enterprising man is often held back until his energy deserts.

INDUSTRIAL MOTOR VEHICLES FOR CEYLON.

Report of Delegates representing the interests of Ceylon at the Imperial Motor Transport Conference, held in London, July 18th to 26th, 1913.

TERMS OF INVESTIGATION.

1. To enquire as to the most suitable type of motor vehicles for conveyance of products to be transported in various parts of the Colony.
2. To obtain information as to the various alternative fuels on which motor vehicles can be operated in Ceylon, and the most effective means of utilising same.
3. To discover if motor transport can be efficiently carried on under existing local regulations.
4. To collect data as to the operation of motor transport in other countries presenting similar problems.

REPORT.

We have the honour to submit the following report on our investigations and the conclusions resulting therefrom.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The inaugural meeting took place at the opening of Commercial Vehicles Exhibition at Olympia by H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught, President of the Conference. On this occasion the various motor vehicle exhibits were inspected and the delegates afterwards entertained at luncheon by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. For some weeks previous to the opening of the Conference the Ceylon delegates had individually been making themselves acquainted with the various types of motor transport vehicles apparently suitable for use in the Colony, and the large collection of different current designs exhibited at Olympia offered a valuable opportunity for comparison of opinions formed.

Since the opening of Olympia Show three meetings of the Conference have been held, to read and discuss papers submitted by delegates representing practically all parts of the Empire, while two meetings of sub-Committees

to discuss points of importance in further detail have been convened. Many of the communications and discussions have been of value to the Ceylon delegates in assisting and modifying the conclusions arrived at.

One of the most valuable results of the Conference is the unanimous resolution to establish a Central Imperial Committee in London, with which nominated correspondents in various parts of the Empire will communicate, to represent the requirements of their particular Colony, make suggestions, and receive advice and representative assistance. Various expert sub-Committees are to be deputed by the Central Committee to consider particular means of advancing the cause of motor transport under the varying conditions obtaining in different parts of the Empire and to make suitable recommendations to the Central Committee for transmission to their correspondents.

The Ceylon delegates have taken part in those discussions affecting the needs of the Colony and obtained the assurance that its future requirements will receive due consideration.

TYPES OF VEHICLES.

The exhibits at Olympia are fully representative of current practice in motor vehicle construction, with a few deviations from accepted normal design.

Steam tractors and steam lorries represent the larger class of vehicle for transport of heavy loads. To these machines the general trend of design is towards high steam pressures and compound engines, exhausting to atmosphere. Coal or coke is the fuel provided for, while tractors are commonly shed with steel tyres and lorries with tyres of solid rubber. Change speed gears are in general practice while final transmission to back wheels is in most cases by toothed gearing for tractors and by chain for lorries. Superheated steam is used in one vehicle shewn. These types in which the engine is placed in an accessible position on top of boiler, where driver's seat is not too much shut in behind the firebox and in which ready access to gears and transmission generally is provided for, are considered most suitable for use in Ceylon. They will, probably, be of service in localities near coast towns, where coal is readily obtainable and stops to replenish coal and water are not considered an objection.

For the service of individual estates and firms who have produce to transport there is no doubt that the load carrying lorry, propelled by internal combustion engine, will be the most popular vehicle. In practically all lorries of this type which the delegates have inspected certain features are common and accepted as standard practice, (e.g.) Channel iron frames on semi-elliptic springs, solid rubber tyres, double on back wheels, front wheels carried on stub axles with worm and sector steering, shaft transmission from engine to gearbox, at least three forward speeds and reverse gear, foot brake on transmission shaft drum and hand applied brakes to back wheels, four cylinder engines of "pop-pet valve" type, high tension magneto ignition, water cooling, and engine control by throttle, spark advance and air lever.

The diversity of practice in standard vehicles occurs in the following points:—

- (a) Wheels alternatively made of wood, tubular steel or of cast steel.
- (b) Final transmission to back wheels by separate chains (open, partly guarded, or fully encased) or alternatively by bevel drive or worm drive, "live" back axle.
- (c) Differential gear of spur pattern, or bevel pinion type.
- (d) Change speed gears of "constantly in mesh" pattern, or of usual "sliding" type.
- (e) Operation of change speed gear by "gate" pattern lever, or, as in one instance, by a foot pedal automatic change lever device.
- (f) Circulation of cooling water by thermo-syphon by pump, or by a combination of both systems.
- (g) Radiators sectional, or alternatively of "built up" design; of types comprising gilled tube, fin tube, honeycomb, and "Solex" patterns. Certain makes having radiators properly insulated from vibration and others not so fitted.
- (h) Lubrication of engines provided for by force feed, or alternatively of drip feed pattern.
- (i) Carburettors chiefly designed to work on petrol only, in certain cases for starting on petrol and working (at admittedly reduced efficiency of 15 per cent. to 25 per cent. in engine power) on paraffin, but in one instance starting up as working on paraffin alone at an efficiency equal to petrol.
- (j) Clutches are alternatively cone type leather face disc type metal to metal, or disc type with "Ferodo" facing, and in one case cone type with cork insets.

Certain vehicles, such as "Pedrail" lorry, "Mack" front drive machine and "Tilling Stevens" petrol-electric vehicle are entirely apart from standard design and its usual modifications, though the second machine mentioned has certain commendable points. Other details such as the solid wooden wheels on "Berliet" lorry and double shaft drive of "Austin" lorry place these vehicles outside accepted practice.

The lighter type of motor vehicle for loads of one ton and under more closely follow pleasure car practice and not come within the scope of this report.

Many of the motor lorries shown display defects of design which tell against their adoption in Ceylon, the most noticeable defects being as follows:—

- (a) Unguarded, or ineffectively guarded final transmission chains.
- (b) Transmission shafts too light to ensure immunity from bending or damage from flying stones, &c.
- (c) Radius rods insufficiently strong.
- (d) Faces of gear wheels too narrow.
- (e) Brake work too light.
- (f) Gear change lever in awkward position outside body.

(g) Radiators insufficiently insulated from vibration and consequently liable to leak.

(h) Exhaust pipes and circulating water connections small in diameter.

The exhibits in which one or more of above faults are apparent are very few.

As the result of detailed inspection and actual trial it did appear that the type of lorry most suited to the heavy loads and normal working conditions in Ceylon should embody the following points:—

1. Final drive to road wheels by chains running in proper cases for lorries carrying two tons nett load or upwards.
2. Type of change speed gear to be such as leaves as little as possible dependent on the skill of the driver.
3. Carburettor suitable for effective working on kerosine, or in due course on alcohol also.
4. Radiator efficiently insulated from road shocks or engine vibration.
5. A proviso embodying some type of winding drum for getting the lorry out of difficult situations.

Provided that none of the objectionable features noted found in the vehicle which embodies above suggestions could be a most generally useful type for Ceylon conditions. For light loads of say 20 to 30 cwt. there can be objection to the use of worm drive and "live" back axle, for loads of two tons and upwards to be carried the general opinion among experts and users is distinctly in favour of the chain. Wheels may be of wood or steel to the requirements of users and there is considerable scope in the selection of solid rubber tyres to be used.

Certain outstanding details which depart from normal design such as the sleeve-valve engines in use on certain lorries, ring and pinion drive to back wheels, position of driver's seat and control placed over engine, etc., etc., are separately discussed, as they have little effect on the results of investigation.

The point to be noted before leaving the subject of the lorries themselves is the consensus of opinion among the delegates best fitted to give advice that all vehicles for the colonies, other than those for use in towns alone, should be fitted with some winding drum device and suitable wire rope, and another point is that a tendency is noted in favour of having the bodies of motor lorries or vans made to bolt on to the frame, with the object of saving time in coupling up for discharging at terminal stations.

FUELS FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES.

The use of petrol, more recently supplemented by the use of benzol, is almost universal in England and is also in most of the Colonies.

Certain vehicles have been in use for long periods using kerosene to start up and paraffin to work on, but this combination is admittedly inefficient in "mileage per gallon" results against petrol and does not make for simplicity.

Quite recently a vapouriser has been perfected which enables internal combustion engines to start up from cold

and run effectively on paraffin alone. This has been inspected and tested by the delegates, with satisfactory results. Considerable attention has been devoted during the meetings of the Conference to the important subject of alcohol, locally distilled in the Colonies from vegetable products, as a motor fuel of the future. It is considered by the delegates that this question is a very vital one in its bearing on motor transport in Ceylon, as granted a freedom from certain restrictions imposed by the excise regulations, when manufactured independently for fuel under proper supervision, it would prove a very cheap and possibly quite effective solution of the fuel question.

It is especially desired to direct the attention of Government to this matter and to suggest that the local production of fuel spirit be encouraged.

OPERATION OF EXISTING REGULATIONS.

The delegates are agreed, after full consultation with the experts on Committee of Imperial Motor Transport Conference, the makers of all standard types of machines and the users of same in other countries that the existing Ceylon regulations are so much more exacting than those of any other part of the Empire that a special type of vehicle costly and relatively inefficient is required to comply with them. In the British Isles and on the Continent delegates have individually seen motor transport in successful operation on narrower and weaker roads and inferior bridges to those commonly found in Ceylon. The delegates have, after careful consideration, to recommend that the following modifications to existing rules be made:—

- Rule 56. (a) Extreme width of lorry chassis to be increased from 5 ft. 6 in. to 6 ft. so as to allow of a platform of sufficient width to carry three tea chests each 24" abreast.
- (b) Load on back axle to be increased from 3 to 4 tons (for the reason that in nearly every case 65 per cent. of chassis weight and 75 per cent. of load carried will be on back axle, not only to accommodate design but to secure necessary adhesion.)
- (c) Total weight of lorry and load to remain at 6 tons as specified.
- (d) Speed allowed to lorries with rubber tyres to be increased from 6 miles to 12 miles per hour. (N.B.—This will only give a working speed of about 7 miles per hour, which average is really necessary for effective operation.)
- (e) The diameter of back wheels, measured over tyres, to be allowed at 36 inches as minimum, instead of 42 inches. The diameter of front wheels similarly measured to be allowed at 34 inches minimum instead of 36 inches.
- (f) The permitted turning circle to be increased from 40 ft. to 45 ft.
- (g) Solid rubber tyres as specified.

Favourable consideration is also recommended for the use of trailers to tractors and lorries.

The existing Ceylon regulations were framed at a time when motor transport was in a far less advanced state of development than it is today. Results of operating standard type vehicles in other Colonies and Great Britain are now available and every conclusion points to the urgent necessity for a modification of the Ceylon regulations as at present framed. It is submitted that the limits proposed are carefully considered and the minimum consistent with effective working.

DATA AS TO WORKING IN OTHER COLONIES.

The data presented to the Conference and discussions thereon are included in the official report, a copy of which is attached hereto for reference. Some of the questions raised in published report have a bearing on the subject as affecting Ceylon, but your delegates have endeavoured to embody all points of vital importance to the Colony in the report which they have herein pleasure to submit.

RULES TO BE OBSERVED IN THE MEASUREMENT, SKINNING, AND SETTING OF SKINS OF MAMMALS.

If, as in many cases, it will be impossible to send specimens to my camp to be skinned and stuffed, I should be much obliged if collectors will follow the ensuing rules and hints:—

1. (a) Take measurements of "head and body" together, that is, measure from root of tail to tip of nose, after seeing that body is hanging or stretched out straight.

(b) Take measurement of tail from root to tip of ditto, but excluding the hairs.

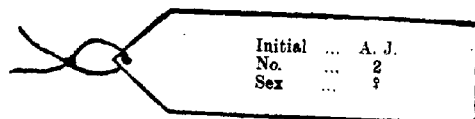
(c) Measure hind foot from heel to top of toe, not claw.

(d) Measure ear from the notch at base to the tip. In (a) and (b) a good way is to hold the tail on top of a box, with the body close up to the edge, and hanging down the side. This will give a fixed point to measure from to tip of tail and nose.

Enter these up in a notebook and then on the labels. These should be always done in the same way.

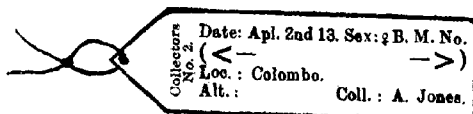
N.B.—? is sign used for a male. ♀ is sign used for a female.

SKULL LABEL.



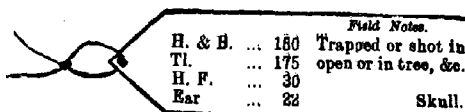
Initial	...	A. J.
No.	...	2
Sex	...	♀

FRONT.



Collector's No.	2	Date: Apl. 2nd 13.	Sex: ♀	B. M. No.	(< — — — — — >)
Loc.	Colombo.	Alt.		Coll.	A. Jones.

BACK.



H. & B.	...	180	Field Notes.
Tl.	...	175	Trapped or shot in open or in tree, &c.
H. F.	...	30	
Ear	...	22	Skull.

N.B.—The space in centre of front should always be left blank for the Museum experts to fill in. Altitude under 500 feet need not be put down. Write as small as possible and plainly, but always away from the thread.

2. Cut belly from the anus to the lower end of breast bone, then push one knee through opening and legs at the knee joint, leaving shin bone. Clean off skin and muscle round shin bone. Repeat this with other hind leg. Work the skin loose all round the tail bone, and holding the skin at the base of tail hard between finger and thumb pull out the vertebrae with forceps. A little oil or sawdust on the fingers will ensure a firm hold.

After this, work the skin inside out, using the knife where necessary to prevent stretching the skin. Skewer it up over the body, shoulders—cutting the fore legs at the elbow joint—and finally the head, skinning it entire over the mouth, being careful in cutting round the lip and not to cut the skin when it goes over the eyes.

3. Clean off all blood, fat, &c., from inside of skin and then brush it all over, especially on the bones of the legs, with arsenical soap or arsenic powder, never on the furry side.

4. Wind cotton wool or whatever material used round bones of fore and hind legs to the thickness they had flesh, then pull by the claws the limb back into the skin. Next, fold or roll some wool to about the length and size of carcass, and holding this with a pair of forceps pull the skin from the mouth down over the wool. Next, take a piece of straight wire, the length of the tail and to breast bone, wind wool round it to get the thickness of the vertebrae, and after painting this with arsenic insert into the tail skin right to the very tip of tail. Do not wind wool round the last inch or half inch of wire. This should be pointed with a file. Bend the other end of the wire into a loop and fit it along the body packing it with wool keep it tight. Then stitch up the belly from the top to anus—enough stitches to hold it well together.

N.B.—The skin should be just filled and as evenly as possible, not to be stretched or to represent life, but of a species, as evenly and uniform as possible.

If the legs and arms hang loose, wool can always be filled in with forceps before sewing up.

The label must then be tied on to the right hind leg and above the ankle.

While skinning use plenty of fine sawdust mixed with plaster of Paris. You can skin easier, and it keeps blood or entrails from touching or soiling the fur. It is essential with shrews and small delicate-skinned mammals.

5. Cut the skull with a pair of scissors from the trunk, pull out the eyes, cut off any flesh that will come easily, and shake out the brains, but leave the tongue in all smaller mammals. Push one end of label string up through the lower jaw and out at the side and tie firmly. Mark sex and put the skin number on it. Roll it in dry dust and put them at once into a muslin bag and hang up in the sun and air to desiccate. Do nothing else to them.

N.B.—If a skull is broken by shot or trap, always send with its skin. If it is damp they can be hung near a fire, and, above all, keep the blowfly off them or putting flyblown ones in the bag.

SETTING THE SKINS.

1. Place the stuffed skin on a soft board or cork-lined box. Pin the nose down without pulling it out, then pin two fore legs close to the head, *palms down*; keep claws from spreading—if necessary with side pins; then, pinning body and tail in a straight line, pin the hind legs close to each side of tail, *palms down*; and keep the tail flat on the board with two pieces of stout paper or card pinned across it.

N.B.—Let the fur on hind legs be about level with the body fur ends on the tail, and keep all the toes close together and flat.

The ears of foxes, hares, rats, and mice should be tightly folded back, and kept whilst drying level and flat to the head by a piece of paper pinned across, just tight enough to keep them in position in the smaller animals, and on the larger by fine pins through the tip of ear on to the skin.

N.B.—All ears should run straight back—especially in cats—so as to clearly show the neck mark. Bats, shrews, &c., ears should stand up and not be folded down. Whilst the skin is drying the face can be made natural by stretching it into shape now and then, and the sides and back can be kept flat and straight by pressing with a flat board or card. Keep from smoothing the fur too much, as it greases it.

The great thing to bear in mind is to get uniformity of size, as far as possible, in the various species, and to remember that these skins are not for show purposes, but are kept packed in drawers for reference, &c. Nothing should be packed out that would catch in other skins when they are rolled up by their tail to look at by the Museum people.

PACKING.

When dry, pack the skins closely in small boxes, nose to nose, sides or ends and tails inwards with wool, &c., to prevent them moving. On top of each layer place a sheet of cotton wool or suitable material, and so on, till box is full.

N.B.—Never wrap in paper each specimen.

NOTES.

When one has a lot of skins partially dry and has to move on, a cork-lined box is useful, as they can be set out flat and dry, and set whilst one is travelling.

Never pack skulls loosely amongst skins, but pack them in a bag with the skins, and always pack the skulls belonging to the skins with these skins and not separately, for if either skins or skulls are lost the collection is worthless.

With larger skins, if the total length of body and tail exceeds 30 inches, the tail should be twisted round on itself or along the side of the body. With larger mammals the flesh inside lips and feet should be removed, and the whole skin just rolled up—not stuffed—labelled, and sent with its skull.

N.B.—With monkey skins, put in just enough stuffing to fill out the skull skin and to keep the front and back of body skins from touching. Then fold the forearms across the body and the hind legs and tail up on to the body. Tail wired well.

NOTES ON BATS.

These should be skinned like other small mammals, only in cutting the limbs cut these at the shoulder and hip joints and not the elbows and knees. The tail, of course, is wired, and a very fine wire is needed.

SETTING OUT.

Just as with others, only pinning through the wrist joint and hind feet. The wings must not be spread out, but folded up on each side of the body so as not to hide the belly fur. Their thumbs must never point outwards, but inward or backward.

In stretching the hind legs, spread them sufficiently to extend the membrane or skin between them. When this is done it will give a base for the breadth of the wings when they are folded.

Finally, I should like to impress on all who will kindly help in getting or sending me specimens, not to think that because it is not one of the large mammals or animals it is not much good or worth troubling about. On the contrary, the larger species are practically all known and classified, and it is amongst the smaller fry—popularly looked upon as vermin, and therefore not troubled about—that one hopes to obtain species or varieties hitherto unclassified.

Should any one require further information on any point I shall be pleased to answer any letters addressed to me, care of Dr. Pearson, Colombo Museum.

EDGAR W. MAYOR,

Major.

Colombo Museum, April 2nd, 1918.

NOTICE.

Advertising for Bolters.

The Coast Agency Committee discussed at the September Meeting the expediency of advertising in the Newspapers offering rewards for coolies who have absconded or bolted.

It was decided that this practice is inadvisable and the Secretary was directed to publish this decision in the *Planting Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.**Tickets on the Railway.**

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kanganyes proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.**A Forms.**

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September, 1913.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution Referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly,
14th October, 1913.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January, 1913.

Coast Agency Cess.

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance

to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the *Planting Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Ceylon Labour Commission.**COMMISSIONER'S CAMPING.****Telugu Districts.**

Proceeding to Madras on the 4th February where I spent several days interviewing various Government Officials and attending to other matters connected with the work of this Commission and inspecting the Agency, I left on the 8th by Motor Car for Renigunta en route to the Telugu Districts, this place being practically on the borders. I have been anxious to obtain some idea as to labour available for Ceylon and to get into touch with some of the Missionaries with the object of informing them personally as to the conditions ruling on Ceylon Estates and enlist their sympathy with the work of the Commission. The actual distance to Renigunta is about 84 miles, but owing to one or two excursions off the main road, the actual distance covered was 97. Through most of the towns and villages I passed, Ceylon appeared to be little known. Coolies, however, were reported to have gone to Persia in somewhat large numbers. This was especially so during the first half of the journey. I stopped at Tirunusi and found that a few coolies had been recruited for Ceylon from this place. Passing through Periapatti and Tippu (at the latter place there is an excellent Resthouse) reached Puttur at about 2.30 p.m. From there on to Renigunta the road is exceedingly bad and in parts almost impassable. Through all the towns and villages Telugu Notices were freely distributed and the inhabitants took lively interest in their contents and seemed anxious to know all about Ceylon and the pay that could be earned. Evidently, this part has never before been properly exploited. The next day I stayed in Renigunta until the afternoon with the intention of proceeding to Kodur which is 25 miles away and although the road is marked on the Map, none exists what is known as a road being merely a goat track quite impossible for a Motor Car or indeed any respectable conveyance. This fact, however, did not prevent a friendly Policeman informing me that the road between Renigunta and Kodur was very good! and it made it a tremble to think of the real state of a road that the inhabitants would call indifferent. Any road over which such sort of conveyance on wheels can be dragged over by bullocks is evidently looked upon as a good road. The result was that I had to return, and proceeded by the late train leaving the Car to be sent on the next day. In and around

guntur. I am certain that labour could be procured. The population of this place is about 15,000. There has been no rain, and dry crops such as Ragi, Cholan, &c., are poor. There are a large number of Straits Professional Writers and some of these paid me a visit at the station with the object of securing work. I took the opportunity of securing information as to their methods and the terms under which they have been working for the Straits and secured a copy of a license from one of these individuals. One of the Penang recruiters was evidently in a big way and seeing that the Straits commission had been reduced to Rs. 12 was anxious to secure business at a more remunerative figure such as Rs. 15. He informed me that he supplied some thousands of coolies to Penang during the previous year and had been in a number of places in the Presidency. I stayed at the Kodur Forest Bungalow on February 11th. This is an exceedingly comfortable little house situated in attractive surroundings and about 5 minutes' walk from the Railway Station. The country around this place seems to be a little more prosperous. The population of this place is 6,592. It grows Ragi, cholan and saffron. Coolies should be available in fair numbers as with the exception of employment by the Forest Department, there does not seem to be sufficient work to go round, judging from the enormous numbers of men without jobs who pursued me round the town when I went for a little constitutional in the afternoon. Notices were freely distributed and posted on walls and seemed to create quite a sensation. Whilst here, I interviewed Rev. Mr. Whitman, of the German Lutheran Mission, who gave him a full account of the conditions of recruiting in Ceylon and the work and earning capacity of coolies in Ceylon Estates. I am amplifying this with further information from Head Office. He expressed himself as interested and possibly, in the event of scarcity, he will avail himself of Ceylon as an outlet for his poor parishioners. He was the only European living in this place and informed me that he had been there 11 years. He also has charge of a Leper Asylum in the vicinity of Kodur.

The next day I left for Cuddapah passing through Umpet which has a population of 5,390. Crops, Ragi, are mostly dry with some paddy cultivation here and there. It appears to be ample labour available, wages were about 4 annas a day. I called on Mr. Jolly, sub-Collector of Cuddapah at the Resthouse, and he gave me some useful information about the country. At Gundur I found that few coolies had gone to Natal, but none anywhere else. The population of this village about 1,400, wages 4 annas for men and 2 annas for women. Paddy is more extensively grown. Here the Motor Car had to be drawn across the river just over a mile wide by 3 pairs of bulls and the District Munsiff who had been advised in advance was ready to give the necessary assistance. A member of the District Council came up to speak to me and told me that labour was less than four annas per day was plentiful, when the question of recruiting for Ceylon was mentioned, he was not so sure whether the surplus was so large as he has usually indicated. Seeing that he himself is a fairly

extensive landowner, he was not likely to encourage my Commission. I halted at Nandalur with a population of 2,595 for a few hours. Dry crops such as Ragi, cholan and very little paddy. Coolies can be obtained and here again Penang recruiters are at work. One more of this species offered to supply me with coolies for a salary of Rs. 15 per month and the usual commission. One of the leading Vakils of this place stated that Ceylon required better advertisement and if conditions were more generally known in the vicinity of Nandalur, Ceylon would most certainly take a prior place to other countries.

I arrived at Cuddapah late in the evening having travelled a distance of 63 miles. Other places besides those already mentioned that I passed through on this portion of my tour were Orampod and Reddipalle and both appear to be likely places for labour judging by the large crowds of unemployed and poor that assembled when I stopped.

The next morning I inspected the Cuddapah Agency in company with the Assistant Commissioner of the Circle and I was glad to find everything in excellent order, the Agent exhibiting an intelligence not generally found with regard to his office work. He is a Tamil, but has resided in Cuddapah a considerable time and knows the District well. He has on many occasions escorted Superintendents of Estates to centres where labour can be procured and has done much good work in this respect. Here, in Cuddapah, the groundnut industry is rapidly increasing and ousting Paddy, Ragi and cholan cultivation, the consequence being that coolies have to obtain their food supplies at increased cost. At present the ryots are busy with groundnut cultivation, but in another month plenty of labour should be available and Superintendents who have Telugu connections should either recruit themselves or send over Telugu Kanganies. Tamil Kanganies should be kept away. Through the medium of Missionaries, coolies have from time to time been recruited. If Superintendents intend going over, they should do so almost at once and the agent at Cuddapah who knows these districts well is available to escort superintendents to centres where labour can be procured. Reports from Badvel indicate that there has been little or no rain, tanks are all empty and famine conditions will most probably prevail in the near future. In the Taluk of Udayagiri in Nellore similar conditions exist, also Giddalur and Cumbum in the Kurnool District. There is a somewhat uncomfortable Resthouse in the Cuddapah, but through the courtesy of Mr. Elliott, a local resident, I was able to occupy the old Collector's bungalow. I was informed that the road to Guntakal was exceptionally bad and from there across to Guntur almost impassable and judging from my previous experience as far as Cuddapah, I gave up any idea of proceeding further north, seeing that the time at my disposal would not permit of my extending my programme any further. I therefore decided to follow the Railway as far as Muddanuru and then strike off by the route via Pulivendla, Kadiri and Madanapalle to Chittoor which country has not before been exploited by this Commission. The distance from Cuddapah to Muddanuru is 34 miles. Here again the road was very indifferent and I

had to cross the bed of the river at Kamalapuram which was done with the assistance of bulls for which I had to wait from some considerable time. At Kamalapuram I unfortunately found the Rev. Mr. Thomas, of the London Mission, was away on circuit. Notices were freely distributed here and I was informed by one individual of the name of Jacob that family batches would be glad to proceed to Ceylon if there was anybody to take them, and he stated that he would be glad to go himself, and also asked what he might expect as a present for himself for his trouble. He was evidently not so unsophisticated as he looked and the name of Jacob was indicative of his descent from one of the lost tribes. At Darapala a large crowd collected in the vicinity of the Hindu Temple. Penang did not seem to be very popular owing to the fact that two coolies only had emigrated there, one of whom had died! They were exceedingly interested in Ceylon. Rates of pay 4 annas. Coolies could be obtained here, I am sure at Tiptuturai no coolies had emigrated.

Between Yerraguntla and Muddanuru there are many slate quarries from which are made what are known as Cuddapah slabs for flooring. This provides a certain amount of work, but it is otherwise indicative of the desolate and practically uncultivated state of the country. At Muddanuru which is a small village at the Railway Station (population 1,586), I stopped for the night at the Railway Officers' Bungalow leaving for Pulivendla the next morning about 7-30, having previously distributed notices and explained to the inhabitants the advantages of emigration. In this place I do not think many coolies could be got and there is also a fairly large Mohammedan community.

Muddanuru to Pulivendla is 23 miles, the first 6 of which is a steep sandy ghat through which the Car was successfully negotiated. This place being off the Railway, camp equipment had to be sent by cart. The country is exceedingly dry and there are no wet crops and I did not pass through very much cultivation. The soil is mostly black cotton, and I am informed that when climatic conditions are favourable, cotton cultivation is good. I stopped at the villages of Nallepalli, Tenduru, Timmalapalle and Ayalapuram where crowds of people collected and notices were freely distributed. At Tiguvakondapalle where there are a few huts only, I was informed that there was little water and I think I was able to impress upon the inhabitants the advantages of proceeding to Ceylon and enlightened them as to conditions of Estate life in Ceylon. In crossing the Ingalur Causeway now under construction I received valuable assistance from the Village Munsiff Venkatanarayana Reddi, of Chimmalapanta, who is the Contractor and who placed bulls at my disposal for pulling the Car across the river bed. Some of the residents here seemed to be very poor. Passing through Tonduru one man said that work was exceedingly difficult to obtain. I arrived at Pulivendla about midday and spent the rest of the day attending to Commission correspondence and interviewing some of the inhabitants amongst them being the

Tahsildar and the Magistrate who came to call upon me and gave me useful information. Not being able to procure carts for camp equipment, until the following morning, I was obliged to stay another day at Kadiri, at which place I arrived late in the evening. The country between Pulivendla and Kadiri is of the most desolate description there being only a small village at the foot of the Kurli. Here the people informed me that they had little water and prospects of the year were exceedingly gloomy. Taking me for the Collector, they brought all their grievances to my notice and I endeavoured to persuade them that Ceylon would be a good place in preference to remaining at Kurli. They appeared to think that emigration would be difficult owing to the fact that nobody would be left to look after their lands. These said lands did not seem to be very productive and I think that a few of them could be induced to emigrate, if trouble were taken to persuade them. The Kurli ghat which rises, I suppose, about 1,000 feet resembles very much a miniature Rumboda Pass, was some 5 miles in extent and inches deep in sand and had no firm surface whatsoever. Half way up I found it impossible to proceed without assistance. The inhabitants of the Kurli village, whom I invited to help me, very promptly came up to my rescue and after much trouble the hill was successfully negotiated. At the bottom of the ghat I stopped to examine the Car and found much to my surprise that it was none the worse for the journey. Whilst here, a number of Telugu assembled round and one very old man acting as spokesman informed me that not only had a Car never been over that ghat before but they had never seen one, I told the old gentleman that I did not suppose he would ever see another on that particular route and if he did, it would not be mine. He asked me the cost, and on being informed said that it was a great awe that it was more than his whole village was worth. Judging by its appearance and the state of the surrounding cultivation it did not surprise me. He was a very intelligent old man and eagerly sought for information with regard to every part of the Car, but what appealed to him most was the motor horn. He said "the English are a very clever people, they can do everything, but keep people alive! When I informed him that it was possible for him to go to Madras in a motor that could fly, he was inclined, however, to be a little sceptical. These people were taking cart loads of grass mats to the nearest shand for sale and I bought a number to use in crossing rivers and eventually found them very useful for that purpose.

I arrived at Kadiri late in the evening after a very strenuous day. The tract of country between Muddanuru and Kadiri is absolutely dried up. There have been no rains for months and conditions for recruiting are certainly favourable. I feel sure if any appreciable effort was made to recruit in these Districts that a good stamp of Telugu labourer could be recruited. They were of good physique, cheery and exceedingly grateful for the smallest remuneration. The people who assisted me on the ghat even after they had been paid insisted on running some distance with us to see that we got into no further trouble.

At Kadiri where there is a fairly comfortable Rest-house I spent the following day attending to correspondence and advertising Ceylon. This place has a population of 10,000, dry crops such as Ragi, cholam have been very bad this year, wages are nominally about 4 annas, but I was informed that work is difficult to secure as they had not for months that labour was available and with encouragement might emigrate to Ceylon.

The whole country from Muddanuru to Kadiri shows signs of having been exploited either by Penang or by anyone else and it seems to me that it is a country that could have attention from those in Ceylon who require cheap labour. I was again unfortunate in finding the Rev. Mr. A. E. Smith, of the London Mission, away on circuit, but I have since received a letter courteously acknowledging my call and I am forwarding the usual information to this gentleman with the object of enlisting sympathy with our work, and I shall look forward to paying him a visit when next I am in the District.

On the 17th I left for Madanapalle and passed through the villages of Jogganapatta, Elampalli, Kanaur, Jeenavarpet and Timmanagatta where they have had no rain for months and rates of pay are exceedingly low, and, possibly, conditions were worse than at any point on my previous journey. At Jogganapatta the main work seems to be the cultivation and collection of tamarinds and this will be a likely place to secure labour, as indeed at the other places through which I have passed. At Madanapalle which is the Headquarters of the sub-division there is a population of about 15,000 and is under the jurisdiction of the Chittoor Collectorate and within a few miles of this place. I found an exceedingly comfortable bungalow. I was unfortunately in just missing Mr. Charles Souter, sub-Collector, who was away on circuit, but especially as I am acquainted with him and know that he is well aware of the work of this Commission and recruiting conditions in Ceylon owing to his connection with the colony. At this place there has been no rain since June last; wages rule at about 4 annas at all seasons. Labour available just now is being taken to Penang and Singapore and Ceylon appears not to be widely known. The recruiter offered to supply labour at the rate of Rs. 15 per head subsequent to embarkation of the coolie. Notices were freely distributed and pasted up in prominent places. I called upon and had a lengthy interview with the Rev. Rottschafar, the Head of the American Mission. I explained at some length the scope and work of this Commission and conditions of employment in Ceylon and the advantages of the colony as an outlet for the surplus or over-population of the Districts in South India. Mr. Rottschafar thought that it would take time and considerable trouble to persuade the Telugus to leave his District, they were exceedingly mistrustful of recruiters or any one connected with recruiting. At the same time he was interested to hear about Ceylon and promised to give my suggestion further consideration on obtaining more particulars from me on my return to Headquarters. The Mission possesses a very large and exceedingly well equip-

ped hospital and are doing a tremendous amount of good work, there are two lady Doctors in charge. The influence of this Mission is undoubted and if they can be satisfied that Ceylon would be a good outlet in times when there are famine conditions prevailing, which is likely in the near future, I feel sure that they can be induced to take advantage of having Ceylon so close at hand. I drew Mr. Rottschafar's attention to the utility of this Commission in tracing emigrants and keeping in touch with them, as the impression appears to be wherever I go that when coolies emigrate, nothing is ever heard of them afterwards nor can they be traced. I think I was able to impress him with the benefit of the Commission in this respect.

I left for Chittoor, a distance of 58 miles, distributing notices through the towns of Punganur and Palmaner. The former is the headquarters of a big Zemindary, population about 10,000. Dry crops such as Ragi and cholam are grown, but prospects are somewhat gloomy. Seeing that there have been no good rains during the past year, there exists scarcity of work. Groundnut cultivation is being gradually introduced in these Districts and finds employment for a few. Wages in the groundnut season is about 4 annas, at other times 2. Palmaner, which is the headquarters of a Taluk of the same name, has a population of about 10,000 and the same conditions exist as Punganur. Labour is available in large numbers, but requires much persuasion and confidence to be established by the recruiters.

On arrival at Chittoor I put up at the Assistant Commissioner's Bungalow, he being absent in camp, having previously met him at Cuddapah, at which place he left me to proceed to Guntakal and Jamalamadugu to visit the missionaries of the latter place, the report of this visit I am also submitting. At Chittoor I inspected the Agency and was fortunate to find most of the Government Officials at Headquarters and to make their acquaintance. Chittoor Agency which was opened on 1st November, 1912, has not so far justified its existence and this year has not been utilised by any Kanganies at all. If during the busy recruiting season sufficiently good results are not shown, I consider that the Agency should be closed and perhaps re-opened elsewhere either at Madanapalle or Kadiri. The Agent who is a capable officer and keeps his books and records exceedingly well is a native of the District and complains bitterly that so few Kanganies are sent over for recruiting. Katpadi being within 20 miles undoubtedly takes most of the labour, and, being the centre of the professional recruiter is largely patronised by those Kanganies who have lost touch with their connection.

I proceeded on the 20th to Katpadi and after thoroughly inspecting the Agency and going into the various matters connected with irregularities and complaints from Estates I proceeded by train to Villupuram which Agency I inspected the following morning.

* KATPADI AGENCY:—With the exception of the high percentage of bolting after registration the office work of this Agency leaves little to be desired. The books are neatly kept and in accordance with instruction from Head Office

and the Agent is an intelligent officer and an old servant of the Commission. I had, however, to warn him severely with regard to bolting after registration occasioned by the operations of the professional recruiter and I shall look for considerable improvement in the near future, or a change will be made.

At Villupuram the Agent was away on circuit enquiring into defaulting cases and his Assistant was in charge. The Agency was in good order and there was not much fault to be found. I left that morning for Trichinopoly.

I travelled 381 miles by motor and 526 by train.

The results of my tour has been to satisfy me that in a portion of the country which has hitherto not been exploited, there is a good and plentiful supply of Telugu labour available and that between Madras and Renigunta, Ceylon could compete with advantage to Penang. I have also got into personal touch with a number of officials, English and Indian, also Missionaries and others who were unaware of the work of the Commission and whose good word will be of undoubted value.

From Madras via Cuddapah and Kadiri to Chittoor is a considerable tract of country which has now received attention so far as advertising is concerned. The people in the villages and towns are now aware of the conditions of pay and living on Ceylon Estates. The Motor Car was in itself a source of much interest and served to attract large crowds of people at every place I stopped at, and numbers of them had not seen a car before. I found the Telugu perhaps more intelligent than the Tamil, certainly more ready to assist and to give information and I was much impressed with their fine physique. They appear to have more independence of character and perhaps that accounts for the difficulty in persuading them to emigrate when their conditions locally are so unsatisfactory. I am convinced, however, that it is only a question of time and that a good stamp of labourer can be obtained by Estates which require Telugus from the Districts through which I have passed. In Cuddapah itself and more particularly in the Badvel District, famine conditions are likely to prevail in the immediate future and judging from what I myself saw of the condition of the country from Muddanuru to Madanapalle, I should say that conditions there will be little better. I do not think that recruiting other than through a European or a Telugu intermediary would be likely to be successful in these villages, especially at first and then only small batches could be procured, but seeing the success that attended recruiting for one or two Estates last year and the satisfactory reports which have reached their connections, in India, I think the nucleus of valuable labour forces could be undoubtedly obtained.

Throughout my whole tour, I was unfortunate to be on good roads only from Poonamallee to Madras and from Madanapalle to Katpadi. The rest of the journey the roads were in a scandalous state and quite unsuitable for long motor journeys. That over nearly 400 miles I had no

engine trouble speaks volumes for the "Allday" Car and that I had only two punctures was an extraordinary piece of good fortune.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Chittoor Circle,
22nd February, 1914

January Camp.

In the continuation of the above camp I travelled:—

By Rail	...	...	...	...	207
By Road	...	...	...	...	67
Total	...	...	...	...	274

On the 24th I went by train to Arkonam to await instructions from Head Office, which I received the following day. As directed I then went into the case of Narthana-Murugayee who was waiting at the Agency.

On the 26th there being no feasible road by which to leave for a camp in the Southern vicinity of Arkonam, I took train to Chingleput in order to strike the nearest road from there. On the 27th I went by this road to Conjeeveram spending the whole day looking for coolies from Ceylon in several villages. From Conjeeveram I took train the remaining 18 miles back to Arkonam. Ceylon is very well known in most of the villages along this route and Recruiting Prospects are decidedly good especially during the season. The bulk of the recruiting is done through the Chingleput Agency, but there are also connections with the Arkonam Agency, more especially near Conjeeveram. This is, however, not a good time to see Kanganies who have mostly returned to Ceylon.

The following day having sent my heavy saman ahead by train I started by road for Puttur, breaking my journey at Tiruthani to go some six miles along the Sholinghur road and back again. The road here is very bad and broken frequently by narrow channels filled with sand and water. A short distance beyond Nagari my machine stopped and refused to proceed farther and I wheeled it back into the town, hoping to find the Travellers' bungalow which is marked on the map. I was told that there was no Travellers' bungalow in Nagari and was directed to the house of the Missionary there. The Missionary himself was not at home but his wife, who is a doctor of the taluk under the Chittoor D.M.O., kindly gave me tea. I had expected to be in Puttur for breakfast but owing to bad roads it was already half-past four and I had no breakfast. From Nagari I took train the balance of 10 miles to Puttur. I afterwards discovered that my magneto was full of sand and water and this had to be completely taken down and cleaned out. Puttur taluk, although in Chittoor District, is exploited entirely from Arkonam Agency which is directly south of it on the main line to Bombay. A good deal of recruiting is already done in this taluk and I think the prospects are promising especially if more advertising is done. Most of the Kanganies

I apparently only waited until Thai Pongul was over to back to Ceylon and I saw only one woman in the village Serukanur.

On the 30th I returned by train to Arkonam and left re on the following day to Headquarters.

I think the influence of Arkonam Agency could be de to extend not only in Puttur taluk, but also in the rthern portion of Chingleput District and the south of Illore District, both of which adjoin it and are almost enly new ground. I have, however, never yet camped these two parts.

The tamil language is always gradually and persistent- extending its area northward and in these parts of ittoor and Chingleput Districts one may expect to find nost as much Tamil as Telugu.

SERAKANUR:—Here the crops are mostly paddy and gi. Wages are generally paid in kind up to about 3 nas a day. One man was pointed out to me whose wages re one rupee a month and all his food and two of his ations were paid in the same way. I was told that a m without property could borrow as much as Rs. 20, but m inclined to think that this was purposely exaggerated my benefit after reading the notice.

Guntakal Agency.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

The largest number of coolies from any single direction ve come to this Agency via Raichur, and the bulk of se are from Sholapur in Bombay Presidency originally ploited from the Old Hubli Agency. Sholapur, I believe, be still a good ground for recruiting, but recruiting from ichur or any other part of Hyderabad State is uncer- n and unsafe. Coolies are now beginning to be recruited re from Kurnool district, and I think that there are good spects in this district.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant C. L. Commissioner.

Salem Circle.

Kuppam Agency.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

This place is a good one for recruiting Coolies and Ceylon been widely advertised around it. Superintendents uld do well to come and make a halt here for some days en they would be pretty certain to secure some labour.

Dharmapuri Agency.

Labour has not yet begun to come in very rapidly and s feared that others benefit to a very large extent by the ertising done on behalf of Ceylon in these parts. There a large Roman Catholic festival not far from here during t month, and the Agent will be instructed to visit the ces during that time and explain Ceylon as well as dis- pute notices freely.

E. V. B. LEVINGE.
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Tanjore Agency.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Prospects for recruiting in the Tanjore District this year are not more than fair: even in the drier districts, the harvest has been good, and emigration will consequently not be as heavy as usual. It is possible that if Camping Work were undertaken in the neighbourhood of Arantangi a number of coolies might be obtained in that district, but these would embark at Ammapatnam rather than go all the way round by rail to Tanjore.

N. H. M. BOWDEN,
Deputy Commissioner.

Palghat Circle.

Madura Agency.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

There is an increase in the number of coolies registered of 204, and I should think the prospects for this Agency are good for this year.

Karur Agency.

The number of coolies registered at this Agency does not vary very much, very few Kanganies register their coolies here, there appears to be cultivation going on nearly all the year and there is not much labour available round about Karur.

G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Chittoor Circle,
5th, March, 1914.

No. 157.

THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,
Trichinopoly.

DEAR SIR,

FEBRUARY CAMP.

During this Camp I have travelled:—

By Rail	...	...	...	...	537
By Road	...	...	...	...	127
Total	...	...	...	...	664

On the morning of the 8th February I set out by train to meet the Commissioner at Cuddapah and remained at Cuddapah until the evening of the 11th, when the Commissioner arrived. On the 12th Cuddapah Agency was inspected and on the morning of the 13th the Commissioner left Cuddapah for Kadiri and Chittoor on his way back to headquarters. On the 13th I remained in Cuddapah to go into one or two other things at the Agency and on the 14th I left Cuddapah by train for Guntakal.

On the 15th I partly inspected Guntakal Agency but as a great deal of instruction had to be given to the agent about the new books, I could not finish the inspection. On the 16th I went to Raichur by train to enquire into the case of Oyata-Appadurai and returned the same evening

to Guntakal. On the 17th I finished the inspection of Guntakal Agency and hope I have left things there considerably straightened out. On the 18th I visited the agency again and in the evening left by train for Gooty. I had sent my heavy saman ahead by train to Gooty and it was my intention to motor there myself, but I was detained at the Agency too late in the afternoon to go that way.

In Gooty I visited the Rev. F. L. Marler of the London Mission. Mr. Marler gave me the impression at first of being very doubtful about recruiting for Ceylon. He asked me a good many questions about the conditions of the coolies in Ceylon and the terms on which they were employed and then told me that he had recently had a very serious complaint made by a woman who was recruited in the vicinity through the influence of one of his Catechists. He was unwilling, however, to tell me the details of the case and said that it was more than likely that one of his native subordinates would be sent over to Ceylon to enquire into this case in particular and the condition of the labour in Ceylon generally. I told him that one of the duties of the Ceylon Labour Commission was to give all the help possible in such cases and recommend him to refer the matter to us. I also said that I considered it a very good idea to send somebody over to visit Ceylon Estates and told him that Mr. Muller of the Luthern Mission had been in Ceylon recently for the same purpose and had come back perfectly satisfied with the conditions there.

I had two conversations with Mr. Marler and he told me that he knew that several people had gone from Gooty or the vicinity to Ceylon, but that he had been able to hear very little about them. I then told him that all coolies passing through our agencies were registered there and that if enquiries were made through the Commission, I had no doubt but that he would get the information he wanted.

Mr. Marler afterwards told me that he had two or three hundred young men from all parts of the country learning their work in Gooty and there was therefore plenty opportunity of forming connections through these youths if he himself decided to use his influence to that end, but that a great deal would depend upon the result of the enquiry into the case of complaint that he had on hand. The people here were not badly off at present, but, of course, one never knew when there might be a bad season and it would be comforting to know that there was some safe place to which the people could go and have a chance of earning a livelihood and making some money. Mr. Marler asked if I could give him more literature concerning Ceylon. I had given him one of the notices in Telugu but he had not then read it. I promised to send him some copies of "Planting Gazette" that contain references to labour. I should be glad if you will note his name in regard to this. I afterwards travelled by train from Gooty to Yerraguntla with Mr. Marler, and I am sure that he will take pains to inform himself in every way concerning Ceylon.

From Gooty having sent my heavy Saman via Mudda-

nuru to Jammalamadugu I went myself to Yerraguntla by train, for, although the distance by road to Jammalamadugu is greater from Yerraguntla than from Muddanuru the former way only, Mr. Marler told me, is feasible by Motor cycle.

On the night of the 20th I slept at Yerraguntla station and next morning went via Proddatur to Jammalamadugu by road. At Proddatur there is a cotton factory of Messrs. Dymes & Co., and nearly all the soil round about is black. Indeed I am told that Proddatur and Pulivendla taluks are entirely black cotton soil.

In Jammalamadugu I found quite a large community of Europeans. There are two Missions here, the London Mission Society and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Rev. Sydney Nicholson representing the former and the Rev. Ethelbert Vaughan, the latter. The London Mission Society has a large and well equipped hospital here with two European Doctors, Drs. Thomson and Benny, and two European Nurses.

Here I also found Mr. MacFarlane of the London Mission Society in Cuddapah, who had been very ill and was remaining in Jammalamadugu to attend the Hospital and recruit his health. The Rev. Canon Inman was staying with Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan to attend the hospital, but he was very ill and I did not see him.

I remained in Jammalamadugu 4 days and was received very hospitably. The Missionaries are very proud of their hospital here, and with reason, and I was shown all over it. Mr. Nicholson was very much interested in the Ceylon Labour Commission and especially so when in the course of several conversations I had thoroughly explained the object of the Commission and its method of working. I mentioned the case of complaint that Mr. Marler had spoken of and Mr. Nicholson at once explained this case to me, as far as he remembered the details of it. The case had been referred to him but he passed it on as it did not come within his sphere of influence and he had had a report from Mr. MacNair of Gooty (whom I did not see as he was out in Camp) in which Mr. MacNair stated that he thought the complainant an untrustworthy woman and he would like to hear the other side of the case. I again urged that Ceylon Labour Commission was always ready to help the cases in this sort and Mr. Nicholson promptly said that he would be very glad to refer the case to us. He said that he would send it to me, when I will forward it to Head Office. The woman complains that she and her daughter when they wished to leave the Estate were at once saddled with a heavy fictitious debt and told that they could not go without paying this. The woman made several attempts to complain to the Superintendent and give notice of her intention to leave the Estate but she was never allowed to do so. Ultimately she succeeded in running away herself and coming to India but she had to leave her daughter behind. She now wishes to get the girl back to India. I understand that the girl is not a minor but is quite alone and unprotected in Ceylon. Mr. Nicholson said that he thought that any recruiting in the vicinity would be successful only in intervals when

re was no crop work or when the crops had been poor. He also said that as the black cotton soil prevailed in these parts the cooly was not accustomed to steady continuous work as is the case when the soil is red. He thought that the Telugus that lived on a black cotton soil were capable of much more and heavier work for a short time than the Tamils, but that they would have to be trained and were only now beginning to be trained by sheer necessity to continuous effort.

In this neighbourhood a good many instances of the feudal system still obtained and in these cases the people were able to burden themselves with heavy debts which would often come down from father to son, increasing every generation. Of those who were not vassals, and through the system of debt, serfs in this manner most owned a small piece of land and were often able to borrow up to Rs. 200, but if there were no such security the borrowing power was very limited.

Both in Gooty and Jammalamadugu there is a great number of Christians among the population and quite apart from these it is very evident that the Missionaries do exercise great influence in their neighbourhood. In

Jammalamadugu the existence of a fine Mission Hospital naturally helps towards this. I found all the Missionaries here decidedly against their people going to Penang and I think that they are very pleased with an idea of a safe outlet in the shape of Ceylon in the times of stress. The knowledge that they can always keep in touch with those who have gone to Ceylon, if necessary, through the Ceylon Labour Commission distinctly appeals to them and I feel sure that any Superintendent recruiting in these parts would at least be received with open minded consideration and might easily succeed in obtaining the active co-operation of the Missionaries; without of course, their going the length of actual recruiting.

Having sent my heavy saman the night before to Muddanuru to catch the morning train there for Cuddapah I left Jammalamadugu on the morning of the 25th and went by road via Proddatur and Meidhakuru to Cuddapah a distance of 46 miles. The next evening I took train for headquarters arriving there on the morning of the 27th.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1914.

AGENCIES.		PREVIOUSLY.					FEBRUARY.					TOTAL.					G. TOTAL.				
HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE:—		M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.
1.	Trichinopoly	468	133	93	46	740	507	140	100	49	796	975	273	193	95	1,538					
2.	Tanjore	83	20	5	3	111	126	37	8	4	175	209	57	13	7	286					
3.	Turaiyur	10	4	1	1	16	3	2	0	0	5	13	6	1	1	21					
4.	Musiri	8	3	1	1	13	1	1	0	0	2	9	4	1	1	15					
5.	Puducottah	26	11	7	0	44	62	16	13	5	96	88	27	20	5	140					
6.	Manapalai	21	5	1	1	28	20	3	2	0	25	41	8	3	1	53					
		616	176	108	52	952	719	199	123	58	1,099	1,335	375	231	110	2,051					
NORTH CIRCLE:—																					
1.	Tataparai	91	16	11	4	122	112	28	9	12	161	203	44	20	16	283					
2.	Madura	202	57	26	8	293	167	51	23	5	246	369	108	49	13	539					
3.	Tinnevely	98	15	17	3	133	83	15	8	2	108	181	30	25	5	241					
4.	Ammapatnam	22	7	4	2	35	15	1	3	1	20	37	8	7	3	55					
5.	Tondi	69	17	17	8	111	34	13	6	3	56	103	30	23	11	167					
6.	Pamban	31	12	4	1	48	6	2	2	0	10	37	14	6	1	58					
		513	124	79	26	742	417	110	51	23	601	930	234	130	49	1,343					
SOUTH CIRCLE:—																					
1.	Chingleput	47	3	3	2	55	51	17	7	3	78	98	20	10	5	133					
2.	Arkonam	71	31	8	4	114	57	8	2	2	69	128	39	10	8	183					
3.	Villupuram	84	21	5	8	118	94	28	9	9	140	178	49	14	17	258					
4.	Katpadi	64	26	2	10	102	82	34	14	10	140	146	60	16	20	242					
5.	Cuddapah	8	1	2	1	12	20	7	3	3	33	28	8	5	4	45					
6.	Nellore	2	1	2	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	2	7					
7.	Guntur	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	4					
8.	Chittoor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		278	83	22	27	410	306	94	35	27	462	584	177	57	54	872					

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1914.

SALEM CIRCLE:--

		M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.
21. Salem	...	24	7	7	4	42	44	15	8	4	71	68	22	15	8	111
22. Kuppam	...	5	0	0	0	5	10	2	2	2	16	15	2	2	2	21
23. Guntakal	...	17	3	1	1	22	18	4	4	3	29	35	7	5	4	51
24. Tirupatur	...	3	3	0	0	6	2	3	0	1	6	5	6	0	1	12
25. Namakal	...	16	3	1	3	23	22	7	7	5	41	38	10	8	8	64
26. Dharmapuri	...	3	4	0	2	9	16	6	3	0	25	19	10	3	2	34
27. Atur	...	9	5	4	3	21	15	3	3	0	21	24	8	7	3	42
28. Nanjangud	...	15	3	0	1	19	6	0	0	0	6	21	3	0	1	25
		92	28	13	14	147	133	40	27	15	215	225	68	40	29	362

PALGHAT CIRCLE:--

29. Erode	...	40	8	1	1	50	65	22	12	7	106	105	30	13	8	156
30. Dindigul	...	97	25	8	10	140	80	21	17	7	125	177	46	25	17	285
31. Karur	...	19	5	4	2	30	49	20	11	3	83	68	25	15	5	113
32. Palghat	...	35	3	0	0	38	75	9	4	1	89	110	12	4	1	137
33. Cannanore	...	33	2	0	0	35	17	1	0	0	18	50	3	0	0	53
		224	43	13	13	293	286	73	44	18	421	510	116	57	31	718

GRAND TOTAL.

1,723 454 235 132 2,544 1,861 516 280 141 2,798 3,584 970 515 273 5,340
1913.....7,402

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched monthly from each Agency during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

Agencies.	Years.						Jan.	Feb.	Total.
Telugu Circle.									
Guntakal	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	6	16	22
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	76	31	107
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	22	29	51
Cuddapah	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	4	11	15
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	15	2	17
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	12	33	45
Guntur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	66	66
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Nellore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	6
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	17	25	42
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	7
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madras	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

} Transporting Agency

Agencies.	Years.					Jan.	Feb.	Total
Coor Circle.								
tpadi	1912	...	...	...	...	216	257	473
"	1913	...	...	...	...	252	231	483
"	1914	...	...	...	...	102	140	242
konam	1912	...	...	...	...	201	67	268
"	1913	...	...	...	...	87	112	199
"	1914	...	...	...	...	114	69	183
ingleput	1912	...	...	...	...	120	105	225
"	1913	...	...	...	...	99	132	231
"	1914	...	...	...	...	55	78	133
llupuram	1912	...	...	...	...	118	156	274
"	1913	...	...	...	...	166	177	343
"	1914	...	...	...	...	118	140	358
Tem Circle.								
njangode	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	19	6	25
armapuri	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	35	35
"	1914	...	...	...	...	9	25	34
ppam	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	5	16	21
upathur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22
"	1914	...	...	...	...	6	6	12
em	1912	...	...	...	...	126	132	258
"	1913	...	...	...	...	63	124	187
"	1914	...	...	...	...	42	71	113
ir	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1918	...	...	...	...	3	26	29
"	1914	...	...	...	...	21	21	42
makal	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	18	15	33
"	1914	...	...	...	...	23	41	64
aiyur	1912	...	...	...	...	5	32	37
"	1913	...	...	...	...	5	27	32
"	1914	...	...	...	...	16	5	21
siri	1912	...	...	...	...	3	15	18
"	1913	...	...	...	...	20	4	24
"	1914	...	...	...	...	13	2	15
arpet	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Quarter Circle.								
anore	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
"	1914	...	...	...	...	35	18	53
lghat	1912	...	...	...	...	36	66	102
"	1913	...	...	...	...	84	90	174
"	1914	...	...	...	...	38	89	127
rode	1912	...	...	...	...	134	135	269
"	1913	...	...	...	...	145	187	332
"	1914	...	...	...	...	50	106	156
arur	1912	...	...	...	...	46	67	113
"	1913	...	...	...	...	64	71	135
"	1914	...	...	...	...	30	83	113
hinopoly	1912	...	...	...	...	740	1,036	1,776
"	1913	...	...	...	...	994	1,201	2,195
"	1914	...	...	...	...	740	796	1,536
aparai	1912	...	...	...	...	111	103	214
"	1913	...	...	...	...	224	141	365
"	1914	...	...	...	...	28	25	53
ndigul	1912	...	...	...	...	75	90	165
"	1913	...	...	...	...	168	154	322
"	1914	...	...	...	...	140	125	265

} Transporting Agency

	Years.					Jan.	Feb.
Headquarter Circle.							
Tanjore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	42	94
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	109	146
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	111	175
Ammapatam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	8	54
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	43	48
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	35	20
Puducottah	... 1912	...	...	...	...	89	108
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	56	111
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	44	96
Madura Circle.							
Madura	... 1912	...	...	...	...	275	255
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	220	162
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	293	246
Mandapam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tinnevely	... 1912	...	...	...	...	94	122
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	121	88
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	133	108
Tattaparai	... 1912	...	...	...	...	256	191
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	267	352
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	122	161
Tuticorin	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	... 1912	...	...	...	...	109	177
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	111	109
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	111	56
Pamban	... 1912	...	...	...	...	8	14
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	11	17
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	48	10
Closed Agencies.							
Cocanada	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	19
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	6	15
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	closed	..
Anantapur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	89	24
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	closed	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	closed	...
Bangalore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	23	17
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	22	29
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	closed	...
Hubili	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	27
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	19	25
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	closed	...
Tirur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	6	5
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	closed	...
Total	... 1912	...	...	...	...	2,943	3,453
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	3,491	3,911
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	2,544	2,798

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MARCH & APRIL, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Trichinopoly Circle.	(Manaparai Agency) Kulitalai	Moderate.	4	3	Good.	
Tanjore ...	(Tanjore Agency) Arantangi ... Kumbakonam ... Mannargudi ... Mayaveram ... Mannilam ... Negapatam ... Papanasam ... Pattukottai ... Shiyali ... Tanjore ... Tiruturaipoondi	Harvested paddy, varagu, redgram, groundnut and ragi in some parts and sowing of paddy, ragi, maize and trans- planting of paddy, ragi and tobacco in progress in others. Crops gene- rally fair.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Not fair.	Water supply generally sufficient and local employment available for labourers.
Mucottah State	(Ammapatnam Agency) Pattukottah ... Arantangi ...	Fair	5 to 6	2½ to 3	do	
Mucottah Agency)	Alangudi ... Tirumayam ... Kolatur ...	Very good	5½ 6 5	3½ 4 3½	Very poor.	
Tinnevely ...	(Tinnevely Agency) (Tataparai Agency) Ambasamudram ... Tinnevely ... Tenkasi ... Nanguneri ... Srivalkundam ... Koilpatty ... Sankaranainar- koil ... Trieendur ...	Good do do Fair Good Fair do do	6 7 6½ 5 6 6½ 5 5	3½ 4½ 3½ 3 4 4 3 3½	Fair	Harvest is just beginning.
Travancore State.	Travancore ...	Fair	4	3	Fair.	
Madurai ...	(Tondi and Pamban Agency) Tiruvadanai ... Tirupatur ... Sivaganga ... Paramakudi ... Ramanad ...	Good	3½ to 6	2½ to 4	Fair	Owing to harvest the labourers are engaged in the fields.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MARCH & APRIL, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
Salem (Salem Agency)	Salem ...	Poor	4	2	Good	Magnesite works are temporarily closed. Groundnut season is over and magnesite works are temporarily closed. Very little rain. Recruiting is discouraged, but labour can be got.
	Omalar ...	Poor	4	2	Good	
	Uttengarai ...	Moderate	4	2	Fair	
	Trichengode ...	Poor	4	2	Fair	
(Dharmapuri Agency)	Dharmapuri ...	Good	6	3	Fair	Labour will be available shortly.
(Atur Agency)	Atur ...	Fair	4	2½	Moderate	No rain for the last 3 or 4 months, harvesting completed. Plague in places subsiding. A little labour is available.
	Krishnagiri ...	Moderate	4	2	do	
	Hosur ...	Fair	4	2	do	
North Arcot (Tirupatur Agency)	Tirupatur ...	Good	4	2½ Children 2½ 2	Moderate	Plague has been severe and harvesting not yet over.
Trichinopoly (Namakal Agency)	Namakal ...	Poor	2 to 3	1 to 2	Moderate	Harvesting is drawing to a close and important Hindu Festival approaches.
Trichinopoly (Musiri Agency)	{ Musiri ... Kulitalai ... Perambalare }	Fair	5 to 7 Children 1½ to 2½	4 to 5	Fair	High wages are paid during paddy harvesting but will be reduced afterwards.
Mysore (Nanjangud Agency)	{ Nanjangud ... Chamrajanagar ... Gundlupet ... }	Poor	5	3	do	Plague is subsiding and water is scarce.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Chittoor Circle

Chittoor ...	Chittoor ...	Paddy poor ragi and cholam indifferent	2 to 3	2	Fair
	Kalahasti ...	do	do	do	do
	Karvetnagar ...	do	do	do	Indifferent
	Palamanair ...	Paddy indifferent, ragi and cholam poor.	do	do	do
	Vayalpad ...	do	do	do	Fair
	Madanapalli ...	do	do	do	Bad
	Punganur ...	do	do	do	Indifferent
	Chendragiri ...	do	do	do	Fair

Tamil Districts.

North Arcot...	Arcot ...	Paddy, ragi, cholam, cumbu and groundnuts good.	4	2	Fair
	Vellore ...	do	do	do	do
	Gundiyatam ...	do	do	do	do
	Walaja ...	do	do	do	do
	Polur ...	do	do	do	do
	Arni ...	do	do	do	do
	Wandiwash ...	do	do	do	do
	Arkonam ...	Paddy fair and young paddy good.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good
	Cheyar ...	Paddy harvest good, ragi 1 to 2 months old.	do	do	do
	Tiruvanamalaya ...	do	do	do	do

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MARCH & APRIL, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Men.	Wages. Women.	Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
nil District.			Annas.	Annas.		
Chingleput ..	Chingleput ...	Paddy good.	5	3	Fair	
	Conjeeveram ...	Ragi and paddy good.	do	do	do	
	Madurantakam	Paddy and groundnuts good.	do	do	do	
	Ponnary ...	Paddy, cumbu and cholam are good.	4	2½	do	
	Saidapet ...	Paddy good.	do	do	do	
	Thiruvallur ...	Paddy and groundnuts are good.	do	do	do	
	Villupuram ...	Groundnut system are only working and rarely paddy.	5	3	Bad	
Tutucorin ...	Tindivanam ...	do	do	do	do	
	Virudachalam ...	do	do	do	do	
	Tirucoilur ...	do	do	do	do	
	Gingee ...	do	do	do	do	
	Kallakurchi ...	do	do	do	do	
	Chidambaram ...	do	do	do	do	
Cuddalore ...	Cuddalore ...	do	do	do	do	
	Madugu Districts.					
Cuddapah ...	Cuddapah ...	Harvesting going on, digging groundnuts	4	2	Bad	
	Pulivendla ...	do	8	4	do	
	Kamalapuram ...	do	4	2	do	
	Royachoty ...	do	6	2	do	
	Rajampet ...	do	4	3	do	
	Sidhout ...	do	3	2	do	
	Prodatur ...	Groundnuts and cholam harvest poor.	8	3	do	
	Badvel ...	Harvest poor	3	2	do	
	Jammalamadugu	do	6	3	do	
	Neelore ...	Paddy being sown	5	3½	do	
Sooloorpet ...	Sooloorpet ...	Paddy harvested	3	1½	do	
	Kovoor ...	Paddy harvesting excellent and ragi good.	4	1½	do	
	Kavali ...	Paddy harvested and cumbu good.	3½	2	do	
	Atmakur ...	Paddy harvested.	2½	1½	do	
	Udagiri ...	do	2	1	do	
	Kandukur ...	do	do	do	do	
	Rapoor ...	Paddy harvested, cholam and cumbu are nearly ripe.	2½	1½	do	
	Podili ...	do	do	do	do	
	Kanigiri ...	Cholam, cumbu and green dhal are nearly ripe and paddy harvested.	do	2	do	
	Dharsi ...	do	do	do	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MARCH & APRIL, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Dindigul Agency.						
Madurai	{ Dindigul and Palany ... }	Fair	4 to 5	2 to 3	The harvest will be over shortly, Recruiting has been slack in February recruiting prospects owing to the late harvest. prospects are fair.	

G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
2nd March, 1914.

Madurai Agency.

Madurai	Madura ...	Fair	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good	The prospects for March are good, this agency has already shown an increase over last year.
	Melur ...					
	Periakulam ...					
	Nellakottai ...					
	Thirumangalam					
	Palany ...					
	Dindigul ...					
	Ramnad ...					
	Thirupuvanam					
	Thirupattur ...					
	Sivaganga ...					
	Manamadurai and Paramugudy					
	Kanavathay ...					

G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
2nd March, 1914.

Tamil Nadu	Anantapur ...	Cholam and combu good.	5	3	Moderate
	Gooty ...	Cotton and groundnuts are good.	4	2½	do
	Uruvakonda ...	do	do	do	Bad
	Kaliandrug ...	Ragi and cholam poor.	5	do	do
	Dharmavareem ...	Paddy and cholam good	4	3	do
	Tadpatry ...	Cholam poor	4½	2½	do
	Kadiri ...	Cholam and cotton poor.	do	2	Moderate
Bellary	Bellary ...	Cholam and paddy good.	5	2	Moderate
	Adoni ...	Paddy harvesting.	do	do	do
	Rayadurg ...	Paddy and cholam good.	do	do	do
	Hospet ...	Paddy excellent.	5	do	do
	Aloor ...	Cholam excellent.	4	do	Bad
Kurnool	Kurnool ...	Paddy and cholam excellent	5	2	Moderate
	Pathikonda ...	do	3½	do	do
	Nandiyal ...	Cholam moderate.	4	do	do
	Dhone ...	do	do	do	do

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.



THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1914.

I beg to give below for your information the total number of labourers shipped at the 4 Ports at Tuticorin, Ammapatnam, Pamban and Tondi as per Government Returns up to 28th February 1914 6,472
28th February 1913 8,850

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

N. H. M. BOWDEN,
for Ceylon Labour Commissioner

TO THE EDITOR,

The Planting Gazette.

Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

In the Annual Report of the Passara P. A. appears this paragraph under the heading of Roads "On the whole have been in fair condition, except for the Muppane-Wellawaya."

As one who has several times complained about the roads in the district, and more especially about this one, I wish to say that during the last year a very great improvement indeed has been made to this road, and also on the Wellawaya-Haputale road. Not only have these roads been widened in places, and corners cut back, but the surface has received considerable attention and is greatly improved.

The weather was not favourable for road work, severe and prolonged droughts alternating with days of continuous rain, while right up to well into October there was very little water in the streams that could be utilized in watering the roads; so that the above-quoted remark is misleading.

I hope the present D. E. will be allowed to remain here, and continue the good work he is doing.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
J. MARKS.

Colombo, March 5th, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association,
Kandy.

"KURAVAS."

SIR,

I have the honour to forward copies of the attached circular issued by me to the Superintendents of Police &c., and to request you to be good enough to warn the planters against taking in "Kuravas."

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. V. ALTENDORFF,

for Inspector-General of Police

Office of the Inspector-General of Police

Colombo, March 5th, 1914

"KURAVAS."

In the Madras Presidency there is a wandering tribe of individuals known as "Kuravas."

2. These people do not work but wander about in gangs committing housebreakings and burglaries.

3. The procedure is as follows, a few women are attached to each gang. The women first go round to houses and bungalows as gypsies and so get local information.

4. The men then get to work and commit a burglary effecting entrance almost invariably by boring under the door way.

5. The gang moves very quickly and detection is difficult.

6. The Madras Government have just provided legislation for dealing with this and other wandering tribes by confining them to settlements. With this in view "Kuravas" are reported to be likely to go to Ceylon to avoid the Act.

7. All Police officers are directed to keep a special eye on "Kuravas" found in or entering their district. They should be marked down and deported as destitutes. They never do any honest work and though they may try to induce kanganies to bring them over to Ceylon as coolies to work on estates, all estate Superintendents should be warned to have nothing whatever to do with them.

8. The Talaimannar and Colombo Police will prohibit "kuravas" landing in Ceylon. It is reported that some have already come over, if so, special steps are to be taken the Police of the Province in which they are, to get rid of them. They should be passed on to the Colombo Police to be dealt with as vagrants.

9. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner, the Superintendent, Mandapam Camp, and the Indian Police have undertaken to render all possible assistance and co-operation in this matter.

H. L. DOWBIGGIN,
Inspector-General of Police.
D. V. ALTENDORFF,
Superintendent of Police,
Headquarters.

Exhibition Offices, 75, Chancery
Lane (Holborn), London, W.C.,
7th February, 1914.

JOHN STILL, Esq.,
Secretary,

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, Ceylon.

DEAR SIR,

I enclose you herewith particulars in reference to three trophies that are being offered by the gentlemen whose names are mentioned, to be awarded to the Managers or Assistants of estates who are actually responsible for preparing the successful exhibits. I should be glad if you could kindly get this information circulated in Ceylon.

Yours truly,
A. STAINES MANDERS.

RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION (INCOR.)

International Rubber Exhibition, 1914.

Offer of Silver Cups to estate Superintendents or Assistants.

In connection with the R.G.A. Competition No. 1 three cups are offered as under for the exhibits that are placed highest by the Judges:—

Mr. John McEwan's Cup
for the best Exhibit, wherever produced.

Mr. Thos. North Christie's Cup
for the best Exhibit produced in Ceylon.

Mr. E. L. Hamilton's Cup
for the best Exhibit produced in the F.M.S.
or Straits Settlements.

Only one cup will be given to any price-winner and should the highest award be made to an exhibit from Ceylon or Malaysia, Mr. Christie's or Mr. Hamilton's Cups respectively will go to the next highest from the same producing area. The Cups are to be personal awards to the Superintendents or estate Assistants actually responsible for preparing the successful exhibits.

In the event of any dispute as to the actual responsibility for the work done, the Exhibition Committee will refer the question to a Visiting Agent in the district whose decision shall be final.

No entry is required but it would be advisable for those who are actually responsible for preparing exhibits in competition No. 1 to have their names sent forward and their responsibility admitted in a definite manner.

NEW COOLY ROUTE VIA MANNAR.

From 1st April, 1914, coolies for estates beyond Nanu Oya will proceed direct and arrive at the times specified in the Railway through Time Table on the day after their departure from Mandapam.

All communications regarding coolies travelling to Ceylon by this route should be addressed to the,

SUPERINTENDENT,

Ceylon Quarantine & Immigration Camp,

Pamban.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:—

"Camp Pamban."

F. BOWES,
Chairman,
Plague Committee.

H. M. Customs,
Colombo, 24th March, 1914.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month Ending February, 1914.

DETAIL.																						Instructional Staff.					
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Typists.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Medical Officer.	Vet'y. Officer.	Total.
Regtl. Staff		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1											2	7	1	1	1			
A. Squadron																											
Staff	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	21	23	24	...	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	1	...	*	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	5	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	18	21	22	...	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	3	1	20	28	29	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	6	5	1	63	80	85	...	...	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron																											
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	11	14	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	11	13	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	17	20	21	...	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	7	11	12	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	4	1	3	46	61	66	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	...	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	1	1	1	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	6	5	1	63	80	85	...	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	4	1	3	46	61	66	...	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	...	2	2	6	...	2	10	6	4	109	143	158	1	1	1	...	...
Total Strength last Return	...	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	...	2	2	7	...	2	10	6	4	112	147	162	...	...	...	...	...
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sqms.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	...	...
Wanting to Complete	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	1	...	2	5	1	...	3	2	4	75	91	94	...	...	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	...	1	1	2	7	...	11	1	1	1	1	...	7	...	...	2	1	...	29	43	54	...	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve	...	...	2	4	5	14	1	26	2	2	1	3	2	13	...	2	12	7	4	138	186	212	1	1	1	...	...

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj't. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1914.

COR.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.						Colour-Sergeant, Sergeant, Lance-Sergts. & Corpls, Sergt.-Bugler, Buglers,	Privates and Lance-Corporals,	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.	
		Lieut.-Colonel, Majors, Captains,	Lieutenants, 2nd Lieutenants,	Adjutant, Qr. Master, Sergt.-Major, Qr. M. Sergt.							
	Staff	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	4	
L.	Kelany Valley	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	3	30	37
	Ratnapura	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	11
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	9	57
B.	Kandy	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	17	21
	Matale	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	13	16
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	5	7	
C.	Rangalla	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	10	12	56
	Mattakelle	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	6	10
	Agrapatna	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	8	10
D.	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	8	
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	
	Maskeliya	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	10	12	
E.	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	6	7	52
	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	8	9	
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	8	9	
F.	Haputale	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	16	18	
	Badulla	...	1	...	1	1	2	1	18	28	
	Uda Pussellawa	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	7	10	
G.	Batticaloa	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	9	11	80
	Kalutara	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	21	25	
	Kurunnegalla	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	15	16	
H.	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	18	19	
	Morawak Korale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	12	
	Anuradhapura	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	4	5	77
I.	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
	Colombo	...	1	1	...	...	1	2	2	43	50
	Ambegamuwa	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	9	11	
J.	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	12	14
	Dolosbage	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	9	12
	Colombo	...	1	2	...	...	1	4	4	48	61
K.	Motor Cycle Section	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	15	18	18
	TOTAL STRENGTH	...	1	2	8	6	7	2	1	1	488
	Strength by last Return	...	1	2	8	6	7	2	1	1	492
L.	Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
	Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
	Total. Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	
M.	C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
	Total Strength including Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	68
N.		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	536	
		
		

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,
Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.



There was an exceptionally large attendance at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, 13th February, when the Planters' Association of Ceylon, who have attained their diamond Jubilee, held their 60th annual general meeting. The gathering was one of particular interest by reason of the fact that there were two candidates in the field for the honour of standing as the Planters' Association nominee for the vacant Rural Seat in Council—namely Mr. William Sinclair and Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot—and that a very keen contest was anticipated.

The chair was then taken by Mr. F. H. Layard (Chairman.)

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

The CHAIRMAN said he rose to move the adoption of the 60th annual report, and as their mouthpiece he would like to mention that the report dealt with the diamond jubilee of their Association. He thought it was a matter of congratulation that from such a small beginning of its first yearly meeting on February 14th, 1854, such a very large and important body had grown. The report, which had been drawn up by various units of the Committee, had been in their hands for about a fortnight and had eventually been passed that morning as the collective report of the Committee for the past year. It was a very long report and he proposed that it be taken as having been read at that meeting. Before moving its adoption he had a few remarks to make which had come to him from reading over the report and which also were dictated by various things which had occurred to him during the past year. The first thing to which he wished to refer was on page two—mechanical transport. Since they met there last year a great deal had been done and was being done to make their roads more suitable for lorries, and by lorries he meant lorries which were a paying proposition and not the playthings which were offered to them by the first meagre allowance per axle. The report stated that a lorry weighing fully loaded four tons eight hundredweight was capable of dealing fully with all up and down transport for 1,800 acres 25 miles from a railway station. He thought this was a very large step in the direction of relieving their transport difficulties, and that they owed a debt of thanks to Sir Henry McCallum, their late Governor, and to Mr. Greene, General Manager of the Railway, for carrying out those experiments and enabling such valuable information to be laid before them that day. (Hear, hear.) He had heard complaints made against the decision of Government to discontinue those experiments, but they must remember there a great many difficulties in their way. He could conceive there would be a great battle as to who would get the lorries to begin with. They must also remember that if lorries were run by Government they

would have to be run to a time table, and they would not be at the beck and call of planters as privately-owned lorries would be. Running to a time table would prevent those lorries running up estate roads to factories, which also would be a difficulty. He thought it was open to question whether Government had not really done the right thing, and whether it would not be better for estates to get their own lorries or to encourage their local engineering works or cart contractors to introduce their own lorries. As Government proposed to withdraw the experiments with motor lorries he thought they were quite entitled to ask them to take up the question of aerial ropeways in districts that had already asked for them. (Hear, hear.) The next thing was the abnormal weather they had been experiencing during the past year. That was within the memory of each one of them and he need not go much further into it. At the same time he would like to mention that a great deal of damage had been done to railways and Government roads and culverts and bridges in planting districts. A great many planters had come forward and given Government a great deal of assistance with their labour, but it had been brought before him from two widely different parts of the planting districts that others had not been quite so generous with labour as they have been without inconvenience to themselves. He wanted to appeal to planters to treat the Government as their friend. Government was naturally anxious to open up communications again and he appealed to them to lend all possible labour to Government and they would thereby be increasing the big debt which the Government owed to the planting community for assistance rendered in emergencies. (Hear, hear.) The next matter they would notice was cooly food supply—cheaper rice. This as they knew was in the hands of a sub-Committee, and their latest act had been to send over a large supply of Soolai rice to Rangoon to ask the millers there to make 15 bushels of rice as near to sample as possible, and it was intended to send that rice to two or three estates for experiment and report. From the facts which the sub-Committee had compiled they had the fact that the enormous sum of two millions of rupees had been lost to proprietors of estates over rice issued to their coolies and if he might make a suggestion, his idea was that a small saving might be made if planters would only issue rice to their coolies in the quantities which they required for actual eating and would issue cash in lieu of rice now taken for barter for other foodstuffs at the kaddies. The sub-Committee were anxious to approach Government on the question of extending the growing of paddy in Ceylon, and he had His Excellency the Governor's promise to say that he would meet that deputation when it came with all sympathy he can and will favourably consider any proposition which will benefit the community without the necessity of any large outlay of initial capital. He had often contemplated with a happy feeling that their coolies instead of returning to India to settle down might find in Ceylon a place where they could go and rent irrigated paddy lands and grow crops and not be called upon to pay their rent or water rates until their fields were growing grain. What a

happy state of affairs that would be from a labour point of view to the harassed planter. Their products they would receive careful attention in the report both as regarded their friends and their enemies. In this connection he would like to repeat the resolution unanimously passed at their last meeting two months ago to the effect that Government be asked to obtain the services of an entomologist to study the life history of the shot-hole borer, which had spread so ominously throughout Ceylon. They next came to Ragama Camp, and he hoped before long they would have as good a report from Mandapam as that report was of the Ragama Camp. The difficulties were being overcome at Mandapam. An ex-Ceylon planter was in charge here, and next week an addition to Ordinance 9 of 1909 could pass through the Legislative Council, whereby the receiving of a railway pass at Talai Mannar would constitute a contract of service with the estate mentioned on the Ragama certificate which would be filled in at Mandapam during the period of quarantine. This was necessitated by the fact that an affidavit made in Mandapam, Indian soil, was not binding on Ceylon soil. This took them to the Coast Agency. He imagined that some of them not present at the Committee meeting that morning were wondering why the resolution which was to have been on the agenda regarding the raising of the cess from 30 cents to 45 cents per acre was not to be brought forward at that meeting. He would explain the position. Since then a circular letter was sent round to the Colombo firms who represented the proprietors, and who were rather to a great extent responsible for the financing of the Ceylon Labour Commission. In reply to that circular an expression of opinion came before them in the form of a letter from the Estate Agents' Association, which he would ask the Secretary to read.

Mr. J. STILL then read the resolution as follows:—Proposed increase of Coast Agency contribution from 30 cents to 45 cents per cultivated acre. With regard to this proposal emanating from the Planters' Association, Kandy, the meeting decided to place on record that they are strongly of opinion that the present is not a suitable time for making any increase in view of the numerous requests that have been made during the past year for estate assistance to various schemes; that this Association does not desire the expression of this opinion to be in any way prejudicial to the Coast Agency and that the matter might possibly be brought up again for discussion in a year's time.

The reading of this letter evoked loud applause.

Continuing the CHAIRMAN said that in view of that decision the Coast Agency Committee decided that they would withdraw the resolution for the time being. (Hear, hear.) The Chairman then proceeded to offer a welcome to the new Association—The Colombo Estate Agents' Association. As Chairman of the advisory body of planting politics he had during the past year on several occasions felt the necessity of some tangible body representing the financial body with whom he could correspond on matters of common interest, and he thought that the birth of this new Association would tend to bring the two bodies into thorough accord. Their interests were one and the same and they could be of great

assistance one to the other. He had every confidence that due respect would be shown to their sixty-year old hoary head by the new baby. While still on with the Coast Agency he must mention that every publicity was given to the trial of the case against their ex-Commissioner and the native banker. The Committee had decided not to take any further action, and he thought that it might now remain a closed book. Their new Commissioner with his great energy and great power of organisation was the right man for them—(hear, hear)—and they might safely leave their interests in his hands. He had had several opportunities during the past year of coming to that conclusion. The next matter was that of labour and Ordinance 9 of 1909. A sub-Committee was dealing with that Ordinance which required several alterations and corrections on several points. They had not had their report yet, but as that was the last time that he would address them from that chair he wished to mention a matter to which he had given a great deal of thought during the past year. He referred to the imprisonment of women and children under the Ordinance for bolting. They knew that generally the actions of the women were dictated by the wishes or the bad treatment of their male belongings. In the case of children in 99 cases out of a hundred they could not be held responsible. In the hundredth case even that would be better treated on the estate. He did not think it was gratifying to see a planter put irresponsible people into prison for bolting. At the same time he wished to point out to Government their responsibilities in the matter. If only Government would take up prosecutions under the Ordinance against people having immigrant coolies on their estate for whom they could not show one of the three justifying clauses things would be different. If they would prosecute people who took their bolters that bolting would be very much reduced indeed. (Hear, hear.) He thought that this was a matter which at their next Committee they should take up and say that they do not wish to prosecute man, woman or child for bolting, but that Government should realise their responsibilities and take up the prosecution of the people who took their bolters themselves. It could not be done by private individuals. (Hear, hear.) The Proprietors' Labour Federation was as they knew now on its trial and every planter should give it a fair trial and every encouragement. There were certainly many alterations and additions which would have to be made to make it agreeable to all, and a suitable means of dealing with the question, and many valuable suggestions have already come before the Committee on this point. He wanted to announce to them that the Committee of the P.L.F. was asking the Planters' Association to appoint three of its members with power to add up to five to go into the question of these new suggestions and to meet the P.L.F. next month. The names of the gentlemen selected in the Committee that morning were Messrs. J. B. Coles, E. Megget and H. M. Picken, and if they would serve he thought they would agree it was a courteous suggestion and he hoped much good would come from the sympathetic action of the P.L.F. in asking the co-operation of the P.A. With regard to the Planters' Benevolent Fund they had just had

a general meeting and they would see in the papers next day the financial statement, and be able to read the remarks made at that meeting. He would like, however, to express his opinion that every planter should be a subscriber to this fund which helped so many. Last, but certainly not least, was the question of volunteering, which was receiving every possible attention from the Commanding Officers of the two Corps, assisted by their energetic adjutant, to whom they were indebted for the paragraph in the report. The great want seemed to be larger attendance at camp to enable battalion drill to be given. He could not sit down without referring to the serious matter of the plague. They could all assure Government that if it did become necessary the planters would give every possible assistance to them as required. In this connection they could easily see what a blessing the cooly depôt in Colombo really was. They had figures showing that 1,394 coolies in the past month were handled in the depôt there. Coolies were met at the station and conducted to the depôt and the ship, and thus the minimum amount of contact could take place. He would impress upon them the advisability of all coolies going through that depôt. With these remarks he moved the adoption of the report, but before doing so he should state that he would be glad to answer any question which might be put regarding the report and accounts.

No questions were asked, and the report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

The CHAIRMAN said that before retiring he would wish to accord a vote of thanks to Mr. Still for the work he had put in during the past year. Also his thanks were due to the Committee for their patience with him, and also for the large attendance at their meetings.

Mr. Layard then vacated the chair, but on the motion of Mr. R. G. COOMBE he was elected to fill the position temporarily until the new Chairman had been appointed.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Hew Kennedy Unanimously Elected.

Mr. H. A. BEACHCROFT said it was his pleasant duty to bring before the meeting his resolution "That Mr. Hew Kennedy be elected Chairman of the Planters' Association of Ceylon for 1914." He had not only made inquiries as to, but possessed personally knowledge of, the qualifications which fitted Mr. Hew Kennedy for the important post. Mr. Kennedy had been twenty years in the island, and had obtained his early experience under men like Austin Dickson and Charles MacLean, two worthy exponents of agriculture. He had served with much acceptance for one year as Secretary and for three years as Chairman of the Maskeliya District Planters' Association, and during his tenure of these offices many and various questions of importance to the whole planting community had come before him. Throughout he had shown most exemplary tact and ability and had obtained many concessions for the planting community of Maskeliya, in fact this respect he had almost created a record, for he had even obtained a concession from the Ceylon Post Office. (Loud laughter.) In the consideration of such questions as mechanical transport, of

obtaining rice for coolies and the possibility of buying from Burma he had always been to the fore; and in the matter of district telephones especially he had earned the thanks of the island, for he had initiated and carried them on most successfully for three years on business lines. The business acumen he had displayed in this respect had won the admiration of all his fellow planters in the district. The speaker said that many tributes had reached his hand which went to demonstrate the kind of man they had the privilege that day of electing to the chair of the Association. (Applause.) He proposed to read one of these from a man whose opinion went for a great deal in Ceylon. It was as follows:—"I am very glad you have hit upon Mr. Hew Kennedy for the chair. I think he is the best man you could get; a fighter and one who always has the courage of his opinions and I think they are always sound." If he told them who the writer was they would realise how valuable was this tribute. So far the speaker thought he had shown that Mr. Hew Kennedy possessed the courage of his opinions, the dignity and the diplomacy necessary to fit him ably to fill the chair. A remark made by the Chairman had set the speaker on another line and Mr. Layard might pull him up for being a little out of order in being too general in his remarks. The remark to which he referred was the allusion to the hoary headed—what was it?—Kelavan invited into the harbour constructed of entwined Colombo agents. (Laughter.) In contrast to this view he would like to point out the position of this old Kelavan. First of all, after sixty years the old Kelavan was about to be regenerated and replaced by a younger man full of youth and vigour and able to carry out the aims about to be put before them. (Applause.) Perhaps he did not tell them that Mr. Hew Kennedy was comparatively young—(some laughter)—he might say more than a comparatively young man. The speaker then proceeded to enumerate the aims and ideas which, in his opinion, should obtain in the mind of the Chairman of the Planters' Association. There was no doubt about it that in these days all institutions were "on their trial" and all had to justify themselves. The Planters' Association of Ceylon was a big assembly and was likely to become bigger still. (Applause.) "back to the land" was a cry which was swelling in volume and spreading over all lands and was attracting the attention of economists and scientists alike. It was a cry which was humanising affairs and was likely to bring about in future ages—however distant—the possibility of man living at peace with man and nation with nation. Looking back from those distant ages upon our present semi-civilised state he thought future generations would realise that agriculture was the force which had uplifted them. It was this uplifting influence which now and in the future would give dignity and influence to agriculture. Science had already stepped in in Ceylon and it was within the region of possibility that very shortly Ceylon might be the Imperial centre of tropical agriculture. (Applause.) All he would say was that the position the Association should adopt was to do all it could to advance that possibility. The Association ought to be able to do it and

could do it. (Applause.) A man like Mr. Hew Kennedy was not only capable of grasping these ideas, but would be able also to embody them in what the speaker hoped would be the future policy of the Planters' Association. In conclusion he hoped sincerely, as they all hoped, that Mr. Hew Kennedy would maintain that virile force—illustrated by the way on the walls of the meeting room an allusion to the paintings and portraits of past Chairmen—which in a measure had made the Planters' Association in the past and should make it in the future a dominant power in an island which owed its wealth and prosperity almost entirely to the development of agriculture through planting enterprise. (Loud applause.) With these few words he recommended to their notice Mr. Hew Kennedy, firmly believing that he would fill the chair with dignity and maintain the highest traditions of their powerful Association. (Renewed applause.)

MR. L. A. WRIGHT SECONDS.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT in seconding said he would not detain the meeting by again dwelling upon the many excellent qualities possessed by Mr. Hew Kennedy which rendered him the right man to guide the destinies of the Association during the coming year, as Mr. Beachcroft had already thoroughly covered the ground. In electing Mr. Hew Kennedy to the chair the Association would be choosing a man whose equal in knowledge of the pressing planting problems of the day and in business capacity it would be difficult to find in Ceylon.

The motion was carried with acclamation.

The New Chairman's Reply.

In his reply, Mr. HEW KENNEDY, who was warmly applauded upon taking over the chair vacated by Mr. F. H. Layard, thanked the meeting heartily for the honour they had done him by electing him Chairman for the coming year. He could but promise to do his best to further and jealously to guard the interests of the Association. There was one duty a very pleasant duty—which he had to perform and that was to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman (Mr. F. H. Layard) for the arduous work he had done during his tenure of office and for the unstinting way in which he had given his time and for the trouble he had taken to further and to guard their and his interests during the past year. He asked the meeting to support him in this vote of thanks. (Loud applause.)

Mr. LAYARD: Thank you gentlemen.

THE RURAL SEAT.

An Exciting But Friendly Contest.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the election of a candidate for the Rural Seat in Council. There were two resolutions on the agenda. Colonel W. H. Biddulph was to propose "That Mr. William Sinclair be invited to stand as the Planters' Association Candidate for the Rural Seat in Council." Mr. R. G. Coombe was to propose "That Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot be invited to stand as the

Planters' Association Candidate for the Rural Seat in Council." Before calling upon the proposers to speak the CHAIRMAN said he wished to explain to the meeting the position of things as they now were. The candidates, their proposers and seconders met that morning and all proxies were scrutinised. Some proxies proved to be slightly out of order, but only in a certain degree, but others were completely out of order and were thrown out. It was the wish of the candidates and their proposers and every one interested that the voting should take place on certain terms and he should like to propose and ask the unanimous support of the meeting for the following resolution embodying those terms:—"That the two candidates having agreed to abide by the selection made today and having themselves scrutinised all proxies sent in desire that the voting should be as follows:—(1.) By show of hands, (2.) By plural voting, (3.) By the acceptance of proxies which have been handed back to proxy holders." The Chairman made it clear that by show of hands it was one man one vote, only members of the Association who had paid their subscription being entitled to vote. He put those present upon their honour not to hold up their hands if they did not fulfil these qualifications. As for plural voting it was to be clearly understood that no member who had voted as a member by holding up his hand could use that vote a second time, but was only entitled to use such additional votes as he might possess. Any members who had sent in proxies but who had been able to attend the meeting could not use those proxies if they intended to vote by show of hands.

The SECRETARY then mentioned a few proxies which had been received from members who had been able, after all, to attend the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said there was one other point he wished to mention, and that was that the candidates had agreed between themselves that the man who lost the vote that day would retire from the contest and would not seek election later. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Sinclair Proposed.

Lieut.-Colonel BIDDULPH then moved the election of Mr. W. Sinclair to that vacancy, and in doing so said it was not necessary for him to introduce Mr. Sinclair to any body there as he was sufficiently well-known to them all by reason of the fact that he had only just, a few days ago, vacated the seat which had to be filled within the next few days. He commended him to them for many reasons, only a few of which he proposed to touch on them. In the first place he was sufficiently independent in position to be able to accept a position of that sort. He was quite independent in character, and he was in touch with the best planting opinion. He did not only say the best, but the best throughout Ceylon and that include S.D.'s pretty often. He must add that he himself had had occasion to test him in various ways, and he had never known him fall in gauging precisely the situation on which he wanted a forecast. He knew nobody who took more pains and who got more successfully to the root of the

subject and of its details, and who could express his views sufficiently clearly to make those views understood by all. He was not in any way befogged by the procedure in Council, strange as that environment must be to anyone coming to it fresh. And his last point was that barring Sir Edward Rosling there was nobody in Ceylon who had any experience except Mr. Sinclair of the work to be taken up. He would not detain them further because it was not necessary, but would leave the matter in their hands entirely, with perfect confidence. (Applause.)

Mr. GARRICK seconded and said he did not wish to enlarge upon the good points in favour of Mr. Sinclair's selection. These had been put forward by Colonel Biddulph very clearly, and he left it to the sound judgment of the meeting as to which way they should vote.

Mr. HALL BROWN supported and said that Mr. Sinclair when he took up the position temporarily had no more idea of carrying on over the new year than of flying but time after time he was told authoritatively that men had been asked to stand and had declined to do so. Feeling that he was not sufficiently versed in the work to carry it on Mr. Sinclair there and then set himself to the task of rendering himself capable of representing that community in the Legislative Council. He had read pages, the speaker might almost say volumes—(laughter)—of stuff that would send the members of the meeting or him asleep in five minutes in order that he might bring himself *au fait* with the questions that might come before him and to make himself familiar with planting politics of the past and of the future. Moreover he had travelled practically all over the island, making himself known to the heads of departments and other men with whom he might come in contact in the future. So that when he did meet these men he would not be at a disadvantage. Again Mr. Sinclair had spent much hard-earned cash on behalf of the Association. He thought that on that occasion when they were called upon to judge between two men who were both eminently suited to represent them in the Council they should try to see whether one of them had not some slight advantage over the other. Mr. Sinclair came to them as a man having served his apprenticeship. He came as a man who had done a lot of work, trying to make himself suited to the job he was now asked to carry on. He asked those wavering in the room as to which way they should vote, and also those who had made up their minds, to use true British Justice and give their vote to the man who had already borne the heat of the day and had proved himself not unworthy. (Applause.)

Mr. Huyshe Eliot Proposed.

Mr. R. G. COOMBE then rose to propose the resolution appearing in his name and to ask them to support Mr. Huyshe Eliot's nomination as their Rural Representative in Council. He would endeavour in as few words as possible to show that in Mr. Huyshe Eliot the planting community had one fully qualified to fill that very important post, and to safeguard and to further its interests in

every way possible. Mr. Eliot came out to the island in 1886 and spent the first six and a half years under Mr. A. T. Rettie on Spring Valley, a better start no man could have had. From there he went to the Dikoya district first to the Lethenty Group, where he was for thirteen years, and then to Norwood estate, where he had since remained. In 1905 Mr. Eliot started visiting, which work he thought he was correct in saying took him to nearly every planting district in the island, and this he thought was a sufficient answer to Mr. Hall Brown, who had mentioned that Mr. Sinclair had prepared himself for the work of the Legislative Council by visiting many districts to acquaint himself with them. Mr. Eliot had therefore no necessity to pay such visits. He now turned to the more important part of his work—that in connection with planting politics. As far back as twenty years ago Mr. Eliot was Secretary of the Dikoya P.A. and in the years 1904, 1905, and 1906 was Chairman of the same district P.A. In 1904 he was appointed by Government on the recommendation of the Association, as Assistant Commissioner of the St. Louis Exhibition in America. The successful results of Sir Stanley Bois's and Mr. Eliot's labours were now past history, and were recorded in a cordial vote of thanks to them both, as well as a well-deserved recognition to Sir Stanley Bois from His Majesty the King. At the various Committee Meetings held in that building for the past ten or twelve years Mr. Eliot could be reckoned one of the most regular attendants, and he was now, he believed, the oldest member of the Thirty Committee. He was quite confident that he could say without any fear of contradiction that he had proved himself a very useful and active member on all those Committees, and a staunch supporter of all the Chairmen who had presided. For private reasons, though several times asked, Mr. Huyshe Eliot had been unable to stand for the chair of that Association which had invariably been looked upon as a stepping stone to the important post of Planting representative in Council. However, though unable to be Chairman of the Association Mr. Huyshe Eliot had been working for the past two years in a position, if it was possible to say so, of more importance to the community than even the chair. He referred to the Proprietors' Labour Federation. No one except those who, like himself, had been fortunate to be on that Committee had any conception of the enormous amount of work Mr. Huyshe Eliot had put in during the period often at great inconvenience to himself. No work had been too hard for him to endeavour to bring about the much desired solving of their labour question, and the tact he had displayed in a most difficult and delicate position had been one of the most prominent features of his two years work of office. All who had heard him speak would, he thought, agree that he had one of the most important qualifications necessary for Council work and to bring the many important matters which fell to the lot of their member clearly and concisely before the Government. He would not delay them longer. He had

endeavoured to show them that Mr. Huyshe Eliot had many if not all of the qualifications necessary for their representative, and he trusted that they would support his nomination to the full measure it deserved. He moved that Mr. Huyshe Eliot be invited to stand as the Planters' Association's candidate for the Rural Seat in Council. (Applause.)

Mr. Beachcroft Seconds.

Mr. H. A. BEACHCROFT in seconding Mr. Coombe's motion said he should like to say that to his mind there was often as much done out of Council as in Council. He thought Mr. Huyshe Eliot was particularly well qualified both socially and in other respects for so important a post. Mr. Eliot possessed both tact and diplomacy, and the speaker could not imagine anyone more fitted to act as mediator between the high officials and the planters. (Applause.) While he thoroughly admired the able speech of Mr. Hall Brown he did not think his premises were quite proved. All credit must be given to Mr. Sinclair for having provided for a possible future, it was a businesslike thing to do, but at the same time, this fact should not give Mr. Sinclair any advantage over a man who really had not had the opportunity of doing what Mr. Sinclair had done. Had Mr. Eliot had the opportunity he would probably have travelled as many miles and have read as many books as Mr. Sinclair had done, but he had not had the opportunity. There was one thing he could say and that was that present contest was one of the most friendly he had ever known. (Loud applause.) When he knew that Mr. Sinclair's name was being put forward as the Planters' Association candidate for the Rural Seat it was a source of regret to him to hear that Mr. Sinclair was not alone in the contest because he was deprived of the opportunity of saying all the kind things he could have said and felt about him. (Laughter and loud applause.)

THE VOTING.

Mr. Eliot Elected by a Majority.

The vote by show of hands was then taken and resulted as follows:—

Mr. William Sinclair	...	67
Mr. Huyshe Eliot	...	43

However when the plural votes and proxies were taken the final result was as below:—

Mr. Huyshe Eliot	...	349
Mr. William Sinclair	...	259

Mr. Huyshe Eliot Returns Thanks.

Mr. HUYSHE ELIOT in reply said he was asked some time ago if he would consent to be nominated. He did not expect to be confronting them that day. He thanked the proposer and seconder and all who had supported him. It was a surprise to him, but he felt deeply the honour which the meeting had conferred upon him. He had not prepared a speech because he had been told that the P.L.F. would be quite enough to speak for itself. (Laughter.) He was glad to feel that that was not the case. Mr. Eliot laughingly remarked that his election was possibly due to

the fact that some gentlemen sending in proxies had got them mixed up with their Federation papers and some might also have been mixed up in the Federation returns by their busy Secretary. (Laughter.) However, to be serious, he honestly thanked them all for the very great honour they had done him. He had, of course, no light task to face. He was not going to indulge in the usual platitudes as to endeavouring to do as well as his predecessors. He would tell them that he would do better. (Laughter.) He wished to add a word of thanks to his proposer, Mr. R. G. Coombe, for it was entirely due to Mr. Coombe's hard work that he was returned at the head of the poll. He also thanked very deeply his many friends in Uva for their kindness. He did not wish to detain them longer, but assured them that they could rely upon him to maintain the dignity and independence of the planting community in Council and to be in touch with the Government. It was not to be forgotten what the island owed to the planting community and to the general agricultural interests which had been brought to the pitch that they were today by the planters themselves.

Mr. Sinclair Thanks His Supporters.

Mr. WILLIAM SINCLAIR was loudly cheered upon rising and cordially thanked Colonel W. H. Biddulph, Mr. Garrick, and Mr. Hall Brown for the kind things they had said concerning him, and also his supporters for their votes. Further he had to thank Mr. Huyshe Eliot and his supporters for the fair and straight way in which they had put up a good fight. (Applause.) With these few remarks he thanked all for the kind way in which they had received him. (Applause.)

The election of officers for the year resulted as follows:—

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. F. H. Layard, G. H. Masefield, W. S. Coombe, Gordon Pyper, snr., H. A. Beachcroft, G. C. Bliss, J. S. Patterson, P. R. Shand, J. L. Tancock, J. R. Neale, T. Gidden, W. R. Westland, L. R. Rudd, T. Hyatt, W. H. Biddulph, Martin M. Smith, A. S. Long Price, Keith Rollo, N. I. Lee, J. B. Coles, Rural M.L.C., and Chairman, P.A.

THIRTY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Wm. Moir, Edgar Turner, E. R. Waldoek, G. Lionel Cox, W. S. Coombe, Gordon Pyper, snr., N. W. Davies, W. H. Biddulph, R. Huyshe Eliot, G. C. Bliss, F. H. Layard, J. Graeme Sinclair, L. St. G. Carey, Herbert Inglis, J. S. Petterson, H. F. Laycock, Geo. Benzie, H. G. Eccles, Martin M. Smith, T. Gidden, H. D. Garrick, T. Y. Wright, C. B. Prettejohn, R. Gatehouse, J. B. Coles, Wm. Gibson, and Chairman, P.A.

COAST AGENCY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. F. H. Layard, H. A. Beachcroft, W. S. Coombe, Gordon Pyper, snr., Wm. Sinclair, G. C. Bliss, J. S. Patterson, T. Gidden, R. G. Coombe, R. Huyshe Eliot, J. B. Coles, Wm. Gibson, J. L. Tancock, Herbert Inglis, W. R. Westland, Martin M. Smith, C. A. Grant, G. H. Masefield, Neill G. Campbell.

NURSING ASSOCIATION.—Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot.

COLOMBO REPRESENTATIVES ON THE KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Wm. Moir, J. Lochore, E. R. Waldoek, E.

Turner, G. Lionel Cox, F. N. Mackie, F. L. Clements, H. W. Crabbe, F. N. Mackwood.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 13th March, 1914, at 9-30 a.m. Present.—Mr. Hew Kennedy (Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon), the Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot (Dickoya P.A.), Messrs. P. R. Shand (Kandy), Neill G. Campbell (Nuwara Eliya), R. G. Coombe (visitor), C. Goolden (Hon. Secretary, Maskeliya P.A.), H. F. Laycock (Dickoya P.A.), William Sinclair (Rangalla P.A.), J. Farley Elford (Kelani Valley P.A.), J. Hall Brown (Chairman and Hon. Secretary, Rangalla P.A.), G. Kent Deaker (Passara P.A.), H. S. Cameron (Chairman, Matale P.A.), H. A. Beachcroft (Kandy), T. Y. Wright (Chairman, K. K. and Panwila P.A.), H. G. Eccles (Chairman, Dickoya P.A.), N. C. Rolt (Chairman, Ramboda P.A.), A. M. Carver (Hon. Secretary, Kurunegala P.A.), Ronald Senior-White (Hon. Secretary, Ambegamuwa P.A.), Tom Hudson (Haputale P.A.), S. B. Smith (Haputale P.A.), Gerald Abbott (Matale P.A.), H. D. Garrick (Matale P.A.), M. L. Wilkins (Ambegamuwa P.A.), J. F. W. Brockman (Matale P.A.), J. G. Napier (K.K. & Panwila P.A.), H. Hopwood (Hon. Secy., K. K. and Panwila P.A.), C. D. Hunt (K.K. and Panwila P.A.), E. F. Home (Chairman, Kandy Districts P.A.), A. Thorp (Matale P.A.), A. P. Jukes (Maskeliya P.A.), C. W. Maclean (visitor), C. J. Owen (Chairman, Udapussellawa P.A.), William Gibson (Haputale P.A.), C. B. Prettejohn (Chairman, Maskeliya P.A.), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P.A.), J. B. Coles (Kandy) H. M. Picken (Chairman, Pussellawa P.A.), E. E. Megget (visitor) L. Bayly (Chairman, K. V. P.A.), F. S. Elson (Kandy), A. J. Hamilton Harding (Chairman Dimbula P.A.), Geo. Benzie (Pussellawa P.A.), G. H. Masefield (Kandy), G. H. Golledge (visitor), J. C. Mitchell (Hon. Secretary, Kelani Valley P.A.), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), and John Still (Secretary, P.A. of Ceylon).—43 members and 4 visitors.

Notice calling the meeting was read. Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 13th February, 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Resolved.—"That Mr. F. S. Elson be elected a member of the Kandy Committee."

Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. W. de Lemos, J. Lochore, W. Moir, Herbert Inglis, W. S. Niebecker, J. R. Barkley, H. W. Crabbe, J. L. Tancock, A. J. Dawson, C. W. Bovy Lysberg, Edgar Turner, and A. T. Sydney Smith.

RURAL MEMBER IN COUNCIL.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Wm. Sinclair for his able services during the past year.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Read a letter from the Kalutara District Planters Association re the Agalawatte-Badureliya road.

AGALAWATTE-BADURELIYA ROAD.

Clyde Estate, Kalutara,
March 9th, 1914

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association, Kandy.
Dear Sir,

At a Committee meeting of this Association held at Tebuwana on Friday, 6th instant, the following resolution was passed:—

"That considering this Association have for the last 7 years been agitating for some relief in the matter of the Agalawatte-Badureliya road, and also that H. E. the late Governor made a definite promise in his letter No. 4098 of 29th April, 1911, that the question of taking over this road by the P. W. D. should be considered in 1914 Estimates, therefore this Committee most strongly wish to protest against the endless delay in making this road passable, for as the D. R. C. are unable to cope with the work with the funds at their disposal, nothing has been done."

I am directed by my Committee to draw your attention to the urgent need of Government fulfilling their promises to us re the above road, and to respectfully solicit your kind co-operation in obtaining redress.

For your further information on the matter I would point out that this road serves a very important outlying portion of this district, and at certain times of the year, owing to its neglected condition, it becomes impassable to all vehicular traffic.

Since 1907 this Association has continually agitated with the Government for this road to be taken over by the P. W. D. and thus brought up to the standard of other roads in the district.

In the Hon. the Colonial Secretary's letter No. 12882 dated 16th July, 1907, a promise was made that "the construction of this road would be considered together with similar works applied for elsewhere."

Again in his letter No. 008 of 29th April, 1914, Government promised "to reconsider the matter in 2 years' time."

In a letter dated 7th May, 1912, His Excellency the Governor referred us to the Colonial Secretary's letter No. 4098 quoted above.

The Hon. the G. A., W. P., and the A. G. A., Kalutara, have both recommended in their Administration Reports that this work be undertaken.

The acreage served by this road totals 4641 acres and the estimated tonnage for 1914 exceeds 2,000 tons.

The latter would be decidedly more, but for the condition of the road, as the high rates for carting prohibit extensive manuring programmes, and traffic and transport have to be reduced to a minimum.

Carting rates for the 23½ miles from Dalkeith to Kalutara were at the rate of Rs. 24 to Rs. 25 per ton, of which the exorbitant charge of Rs. 14 to Rs. 15 per ton had to be paid for the 4½ miles of the Agalawatte-Badureliya portion.

My Committee would point out with regret that no provision has been made for this road in 1913—14 estimates, and view with apprehension the unlikelihood of its inclusion in the estimates for 1914—15. They therefore have requested me to approach you in the matter, in the fullest confidence that you will lay before Government what they consider an exceptionally strong case.

I am, etc.,

W. S. NIEBECKER.
Hon. Secretary, Kalutara P. A.

Mr. GOLLEDGE explained to the meeting the growing importance of this road, and informed members that it had recently been resurveyed.

Resolved:—"That the Hon. the Rural Member in Council be requested to press Government to consider the Kalutara District's application favourably."

Read correspondence from the Kalutara District Planters' Association *re* the proposed Kalutara railway extension.

Resolved:—"That the Hon. the Rural Member in Council be asked to keep this question before Government."

Read a letter from the Passara District Planters' Association *re* unexpended votes.

Dammeria Group, Passara,
March 4th, 1914.

VOTES 1912-13.

THE SECRETARY,
P. A. of Ceylon.

DEAR SIR,

Referring to yours dated 17th November, 1913, I regret to state that the figures asked for have not been received. This Association is now passed the following resolution:—

"That this P. A. do ask the Parent P. A. to obtain not only the figures of votes and expenditure entrusted to the P.W.D. for the year 1912-13, but for the last ten years, and have them tabulated."

Yours faithfully,

D. G. NORMAN.

Acting Hon. Secretary, Passara P. A.

Resolved:—"That the Hon. the Rural Member in Council be requested to obtain from Government the figures of votes on roads in Ceylon showing unexpended balances during the last ten years."

Read a letter from Mr. W. H. Biddulph *re* Justice of the Peace and Unofficial Police Magistrates.

The Secretary was directed to make certain inquiries.

Read correspondence with the Hon. the Colonial Secretary *re* the Ratnapura District Court.

Resolved:—"That copies be sent to the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association and their remarks on the same solicited."

Read a letter from the Dinbula Planters' Association *re* regulations for insuring baggage on the railway.

Resolved:—"That Mr. A. Hamilton Harding, the chairman and the Secretary do examine this question."

Read correspondence forwarded by the Kelani Valley A. *re* Veterinary Surgeons.

Resolved:—"That this be not pursued as mechanical transport is likely to relieve the situation."

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

Members were informed that the report of the sub-committee elected at the last meeting to edit the suggestions received for the amendment of the Proprietors' Labour Federation Rules would be submitted to the Federation Committee at a meeting to be held in the afternoon.

INTERNATIONAL RUBBER AND ALLIED TRADES EXHIBITION,
LONDON, 1914.

Resolved:—"That the Ceylon Tea Exhibit be labelled 'Pure Ceylon Tea.'"

GERMAN EAST AFRICAN UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

Resolved:—"That this Association is unable to participate in this Exhibition."

PLAGUE.

Read a letter from the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Colombo, suggesting the advisability of distributing through the Ceylon Labour Commission notices stating that inoculation is optional and not forced.

Resolved:—"That it is not expedient to distribute such notices in South India."

TRUSTEES OF DISTRICT PROPERTY.

Mr. H. A. BEACHCROFT advised the meeting that this question was receiving attention.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

Read correspondence with the Director of Public Works:—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 21st January, 1914.

THE DIRECTOR,

Public Works Department, Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that it was stated at a General Committee meeting of the Planters' Association of Ceylon held on the 9th instant, that some of the sidings now being provided on main roads for the coming increase in motor traffic are not situated to the best advantage.

It is suggested that these should be placed preferably at points which command a good view in both directions from a bad corner, so that a driver may be able to decide whether to go on or to await the passage of and traffic in view. It is also suggested that sidings are perhaps unnecessary on roads running parallel with the railway where there is not much likelihood of motor transport being employed; the instance given being the Peradeniya-Gampola road.

And it is further suggested that these sidings should be placed, not at regular intervals, but at the most profitable spots available and at a rate of so many per mile.

I have no doubt that these points have already engaged your attention, but venture to bring them forward again as the matter was discussed by my Committee.

I am etc.,

JOHN STILL.

Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.
MOTOR LORRY TRAFFIC.

Colombo,
24th January, 1914.

From the Director of Public Works.

To the Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon, 40 and 41, Ward Street, Kandy.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 21st instant and to inform you that the matter in question has already received my attention and instructions have been issued accordingly.

I am etc.,

T. H. CHAPMAN

Director of Public Works.

SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO STUDY COOLIES' FOOD SUPPLY.

The meeting was informed that samples of rice had been sent to Burma and that a consignment from Rangoon was shortly expected.

THEFTS OF TEA AND RUBBER STUMPS.

The meeting was informed that reports of a number of specific instances had been sent to Government and that correspondence was proceeding.

CARDAMOM THEFTS.

Mr. WM. SINCLAIR stated that these are on the increase and that the present legislation is quite inadequate for the protection of growers..

Resolved:—"That the Hon. the Rural Member in Council be requested to re-open the question with Government."

RUBBER THEFTS.

Read the following letter from Government:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, January 12th, 1914.

PREVENTION OF RUBBER THEFTS.

THE SECRETARY,

P.A., Kandy.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter of the 27th August, 1913, I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council have given careful consideration to the proposal that the Rubber Theft Prevention Ordinance should be amended so that every producer of rubber should be registered and be required to keep daily accounts of all rubber produced.

2. Enquiries which have been made among the Government Agents and as to the result of similar legislation in Malaya show that the proposal is impracticable, and in the circumstances His Excellency regrets that the contemplated legislation must be abandoned.

I am &c.,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. W. ARNOTT,

for Colonial Secretary.

TODDY AND ARRACK TAVERNS.

Mr. A. H. HARDING gave a short account of the proceedings of the Excise Advisory Board for the Nuwara Eliya district.

Resolved:—"That the Secretary do write to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and request that a senior Officer of the Excise Department may be appointed to supervise the Circle embracing the Central Province."

The following resolution was passed *nem con*:—

Resolved:—"That this Committee is of opinion that no arrack taverns should be opened, or licenses be renewed, in any planting district where general opposition had been expressed."

RAGAMA CAMP.

The meeting was informed that the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary had been approached with a request to expedite the despatch of cooly bills from Ragama Camp and that correspondence was proceeding.

EXTRADITION WARRANTS.

Read a letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary asking that an interview may be arranged with the Attorney-General.

Resolved:—"That Messrs. Edgar Turner and A. Hamilton Harding be deputed to interview the Attorney-General."

CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

Correspondence with the General Manager, Ceylon Government Railway, re Railway goods regulations, was laid on the table and it was intimated that the Maskelyne District Planters' Association was making inquiries and generally working up the question.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

A further letter from the Kotmale Planters' Association re pillar boxes at railway stations was read and the Secretary was directed to inquire from that Association at what stations they thought pillar-boxes should be provided.

"PLANTING GAZETTE."

Resolved:—"That Mr. F. S. Elson be elected a member of the sub-Committee appointed to control the "Planting Gazette." "

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the proceedings.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND OF CEYLON.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Corporation of the Planters' Benevolent Fund of Ceylon, was held in the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy at 12 noon on Friday, the 13th February. Mr. F. J. Layard presided, and the others present were: Messrs. B. Kennedy, R. G. Coombe, N. C. Rolt, W. de Lemos, N. Wilson Blackett, W. C. Hawke, C. B. Clay, W. F. Bab Wm. Gibson, H. L. Egan, C. W. Bovy Lysberg, Neil Campbell and John Still (Secretary.)

THE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

After preliminaries the CHAIRMAN offered a few remarks on the report. The report for the year had been practically printed; and a rough proof had been handed to him. A list of subscribers was not completed, and it would be added later. Before moving the adoption of the report he submitted the following facts dealing with the Fund in the year. There were 385 private subscribers and 399 estate subscribers. In 1911 the subscriptions amounted Rs. 6,840; in 1912 nearly Rs. 9,000, and in 1913 it raised to Rs. 17,159. That was due to the action of the Committee appointing gentlemen in different districts to obtain funds locally from the various districts. The donations and subscriptions amounted to Rs. 27,430.14. Of that assistance was fully rendered to several, leaving credit balance unexpended of Rs. 237,134.92. The subscriptions in 1913 amounted to Rs. 12,602.45. He was glad that no deserving case had been refused assistance during the past year. Many of the old pensions were raised, many new pensions were granted. The total number of those benefitted was 51 males and 17 females, and amount paid was Rs. 20,419. It was proposed in future instead of sending the list of subscribers round, to authorise the bank to make the payment and render the account. The report and accounts were then adopted.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the report was not full of details as it might be, as the Committee was of opinion that the details were of a private nature and did not interest the majority of people, and they were withheld; but anyone wishing to have any further information could get it.

Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co., who had audited the accounts in the past year, were re-elected for the current year.

This was all the business before the meeting.



DOLOSBAGE AND YAKDESSA PLANTERS ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above Association was held at Pen-y-lan on January 27th, 1914: Present:—Messrs. M. H. Reeves (Chairman), T. J. Wilson, A. Sudlow, M. B. Blount, and E. G. Box (Hon. Secretary).

The annual report was considered and the business left to the General Meeting, at which in addition to the above the following were present:—Messrs. Thos. Smith, W. Russell Scott, C. A. Laing, W. R. Webster, E. C. Dowson. Visitors; Messrs. Alex. Cameron and W. P. Hodgson.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1913.

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting its 37th annual report.

MEMBERSHIP.—On the 31st December, 1913, there were 41 votes on the register, 39 estates and 2 private votes, as compared with 41 in 1912. Weyweltalawa and Amblakande withdrew, while St. Catherine and Kelvin rejoined, and Mr. D. S. Cameron subscribed as a private voter. Six estates have given notice or resignation of their membership in order to join the Kegalle or Kelani Valley Associations. They are Weemalle, Aranayaka, Narangalla, Haviland, Dambalagolla and Doteloya Cardamoms.

MEETINGS.—Three Committee meetings and three general meetings were held during the year. The attendance was poor.

FINANCE.—The balance in hand now amounts to Rs. 78.03. Particulars of receipts and expenditure are tabled for your information.

SEASON.—Western Dolosbage experienced one of the worst seasons they have had for years, but Eastern Dolosbage was more favoured and though not so good as 1912, 1913 was a very fair year. The district experienced an abnormal rainfall on the 6th October, all district records being beaten and much damage done to roads and property.

Estimates for 1914 are as follows:—

TEA.—Total acreage 13,288. Acreage in bearing, 12,578. Estate crops, 4,816,000 lbs., giving a yield per acre of 883 lbs. Tea from bought leaf (native) 195,000 lbs. Total tea crop, 5,011,000 lbs.

RUBBER.—Acreage (approximate) 2,258; acreage in bearing 1,413; estimated crop, 216,250 lbs.

CARDAMOMS.—Acreage 569, acreage in bearing, 376; estimated crop 40,050 lbs.

LABOUR.—Labour has been slightly more plentiful than last year, but advances have steadily continued to rise. The Proprietors' Labour Federation is making a strong effort to rectify

this state of things, and your Committee trust that their efforts may meet with success. Your Committee would again emphasise the importance of recruiting direct from the coast.

HEALTH.—The health of the district had been pretty good on the whole. Anchylostomiasis is still prevalent but seems to be decreasing slightly.

PESTS.—Your Committee regret being unable to report any decrease in shot-hole borer. Tortrix has been very bad on at least one estate in the district.

HOSPITALS.—Your Hospital Visitors' reports are as follows:—

GAMPOLA HOSPITAL.

I have to advise having visited the Gampola hospital on Friday, the 23rd instant. The Medical Officer and full staff were in attendance at the time. The patients were 40 males and 11 females. No complaints were made to me and all inmates seemed contented. I understand that the Government have sanctioned the building of a new hospital on a different site, so comment upon the condition of the present building is unnecessary. The hospital was flooded three times during 1913, the patients on each occasion having to be hurriedly removed to the M. O.'s bungalow. At the time of the last flood there were 55 patients in the hospital.

ARTHUR SUDLOW.

DOLOSBAGE HOSPITAL.

I visited the Dolosbage hospital today at 2-30 p.m. The Assistant Medical Officer was in charge of the hospital at the time of my visit. There were 11 males and 6 females in hospital. Wards were not at all over-crowded. All the patients were in the wards and grounds at the time of my visit and appeared to be well-cared for, and no complaints were made to me. I did not see the food at the time of my visit, but no complaint regarding food was made to me. The latrines, bathrooms, and hospital grounds were all clean and in good order. I did not observe any infringements of hospital regulations. Some of the drains round the hospital require some attention, and there does not appear sufficient run on them, and water often stands in them. I was sorry to find that the two leading drains from the hospital that go down to the cart road have not yet been made cement drains. It is quite impossible to keep them clean and in a healthy condition in their present state and they should be made into cement drains immediately.

T. J. WILSON.

NAWALAPITIYA HOSPITAL.

I visited the Nawalapitiya Hospital at 5-30 p.m. yesterday. Dr. Peries shewed me through the wards. The whole place looks clean and well-cared for. The patients were eating their food and I heard no complaints of any sort.

This hospital was as usual more than full, there being 69 patients with a provision of 46 beds, the male wards with 32 beds had 42 patients and the female wards with 14 beds had 27 patients. Long practice had made Dr. Peries very clever in accommodating extra patients.

The two new wards are still being built very slowly it is true, but they are in a more advanced state than at the time of my visit in August. The P.W.D. have had workmen on this job now for eight months, and very little of the wall has as yet reached the height of the tops of the windows.

E. G. BOX.

ARANAYAKA DISPENSARY.

I visited the Aranayaka dispensary on Monday, March 24th, 1913. At the time of visit the Medical Officer was absent at Kegalle on a Court case. The apothecary was in charge. Despite the fact that the dispensary was being moved to the new building in two day's time, I found everything in a very satisfactory way. The place was clean, and the grounds were free from any rubbish or dirt. I did not notice any infringements of regulations. From what I could see, there appeared to be a good supply of medicines,

etc., in stock. All dispensing utensils were perfectly clean and everything kept in its proper place.

I impressed on the apothecary the importance of keeping some very necessary medicines which are too often not to be found in outlying dispensaries. I have only had one complaint from a local planter about not being able to get what he wrote for on one occasion, this I pointed out when visiting. The new dispensary is about 1½ miles further on the Kegalle road. Having left your district I have to resign the appointment and would ask you to nominate another visitor.

H. S. POPHAM.

ARANAYAKA HOSPITAL.

Your Committee has pleasure in stating that His Excellency the Governor has ordered that plans and estimates be prepared for a hospital at Aranayaka for consideration with the estimates for 1914-15.

Your Committee hopes that the work on this building will soon be put in hand, it will be a great blessing to the inhabitants of a very feverish district.

ROADS.—Your Committee regrets to have to put on record the steady deterioration of the Nawalapitiya-Dolosbage road. During the year some corners have been benched and curves eased, but the surface is getting yearly worse and worse, bad metal and careless application being the principal contributing causes. The road suffered considerably this year from the exceptional rains, but allowing for this it is undoubtedly deteriorating. The Government has now definitely refused to take over the Lantern Hill-Somerset connecting road excusing itself on the plea of its being little used, and that the gradients make it quite out of the question for the P. W. D. to take it over as a main road. The Government has agreed to increase its contribution to the upkeep of the Bainagalla-Pen-y-lan road by an annual amount of Rs. 600.

MINOR ROADS.—Rs. 1,065 were voted by the D.R.C., Kegalle, and this money was spent. The D.R.C., Kandy, voted Rs. 440, and of this amount the sum of Rs. 421.53 was applied for and received. The amount voted for the Nawalapitiya short cut was not fully spent. A grant of Rs. 50 was asked for and obtained for repairs to the ford on the Cattarem-Ingurugalla road, but owing to the wet weather these repairs could not be put in hand and on application to the D. R. C. this grant was allowed to stand over till 1914.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. Stephens reports having collected in the district and forwarded to the Hon. Secretary of the Planters' Benevolent Fund the sum of Rs. 265.25. Your Committee considers that this fund should be supported by all Planters who can possibly afford to do so.

VOLUNTEERING.—There are at present 12 members on the roll of the C.P.R.C. and two on the reserve. Bills have been fairly well attended taking into consideration the long distances some members have to travel. The annual course of Musketry was satisfactory. The detachment was well represented at the Review in Kandy on the 10th December. 2nd Lieut. Popham's departure from the district will be regretted by the Corps. The C.M.R. has only one member on the reserve in this district.

OBITUARY.—It is with great regret that your Committee has to record the death of Mr. Charles Laing, an old and proprietary planter of this district.

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and said he was sorry to have to express the view that members had attended very poorly during the year gone by. He hoped they would endeavour to attend more regularly in future. It was usual on these occasions to say something in reviewing the working of the past year. Your Committee's report submitted to you is very complete, and leaves nothing further for me to add. My tenure of office as Chairman during

the year has been made a pleasant one by the very efficient manner in which Mr. E. G. Box has discharged the duties of Hon. Secretary to this Association.

Mr. Reeves having thanked the Hon. Secretary for the help he had rendered him during the year vacated the chair and Mr. Thos. Smith was temporarily elected.

It was proposed by Mr. Thos. Smith, seconded by Mr. T. J. Wilson, that Mr. M. H. Reeves be asked to act for another year.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. M. H. Reeves was duly elected, and returned thanks in a short speech.

Mr. E. G. Box signified that pressure of work prevented him continuing to act as Hon. Secretary and proposed that Mr. E. C. Dowson should be asked to act. Seconded by Mr. M. H. Reeves and carried.

Mr. E. C. Dowson was thereupon elected to act as Hon. Secretary for the ensuing year.

OTHER OFFICE-BEARERS.

The following are the other office-bearers elected for 1914:—

GENERAL COMMITTEE.—Messrs. M. H. Reeves (Chairman), Thos. Smith, A. J. Stephens, D. S. Cameron, W. Russell Scott, F. R. Bissett, T. J. Wilson, A. Sudlow, M. B. Blount, H. E. Greig, G. Hunter, W. J. R. Hamilton and Hon. Secretary.

AUDITOR.—Mr. F. R. Bissett.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Thos. Smith, A. J. Stephens, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Gampola: Mr. A. Ludlow, Dolosbage: Mr. T. J. Wilson; Nawalapitiya: Mr. E. G. Box; Aranayaka Dispensary: Mr. M. B. Blount.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. A. J. Stephens.

D.R.C., KEGALLE.—Mr. M. B. Blount.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter was received from the Government Agent informing the Association that Mr. E. W. Morris had resigned the appointment of J.P. and U.P.M. as he was shortly leaving the district.

It was proposed and carried that Mr. W. J. R. Hamilton be appointed J.P., U.P.M. for Western Dolosbage to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. E. W. Morris's retirement.

ROADS: LANTERN HILL-SOMERSET.

Mr. A. Sudlow proposed that in view of the reasons put forward by the Government for being unable to take over the entire upkeep of the Lantern Hill-Somerset road, viz., bad gradients, that this Association do now gently request Government to take over the road and make deviations where they consider the gradients unsuitable. Mr. Sudlow in a short speech pointed out that the road was being largely used for motor and horse traffic to Gampola and that it would be of considerable use to the whole district in case of a slip or washaway on the main Nawalapitiya Road.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. THOS. SMITH and carried.

BARNAGALLA-PEN-Y-LAN ROAD.

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary intimating that an increased vote of Rs. 600 per annum would be included in the estimate for subsequent years.

SEAFORTH-PUNIGALLA BRIDLE PATH.

Mr. W. RUSSELL SCOTT stated that this road had been reached in several places, caused by the recent floods, and requested the Association to ask Government for a special grant of Rs. 200 to make the road passable. He stated that he was willing to contribute Rs. 200 on condition that Government gave a similar amount.

It was resolved that the Secretary be directed to write to the Government asking for this grant.

LOSS ON RICE.

Read letter and resolution from the Maskeliya P. A. referring to the high cost of rice.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that a sub-Committee had already been appointed by the Parent Association to go into his question.

CEYLON LABOUR FEDERATION.

Read resolution from Sabaragamuwa P. A. *re* increase of mess, but nothing was decided upon by the meeting.

KOTMALE RESOLUTIONS.

Read the resolutions from Kotmale P. A. *re* warehouse rent and postal pillar boxes at all railway stations.

The meeting was of opinion that these resolutions should be supported by the Association.

C. S. P. C. A.

Read letter from Messrs. Walker and Mitchell with regard to the working of the Society in this district.

Mr. T. J. WILSON was of opinion that more European supervision was required, and he thought it would not be a difficult matter to obtain the voluntary services of gentlemen resident in Dolosbage.

On a resolution by Mr. T. J. Wilson, the Secretary was instructed to write to the P.C.M.O. requesting that the two leading drains from the hospital down to the cart road be cemented.

At the close of the meeting Mr. THOS. SMITH proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and retiring Hon. Secretary. He was glad Mr. W. Reeves, who had served the Association so well, had consented to act again. He was sorry Mr. E. G. Box could no longer carry on the work as Secretary, and he was quite sure it would not be difficult for the next man to follow him.

E. C. DAWSON.

Hon. Secretary.

MATURATA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the 12th Annual General Meeting of the Maturata Planters' Association was held in the Gonakella Pavilion on Wednesday, January 28th. Present:—Messrs. D. Lyall (Chairman), R. R. Jaques, G. H. Baird, T. H. Williams, E. B. Robinson, P. Lobo, N. G. Paterson, W. Cudge, H. Allen, and A. N. Paine (Hon. Secretary.)

The Secretary read the Annual Report, and Mr. Cudge the Hospital Report.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1913.

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 16 estate members the same as last year.

MEETINGS.—Three general meetings were held during the year.

OBITUARY.—This Association has to record its heavy loss by the deaths of Mr. F. H. Vizard, its Hon. Secretary, and Mr. G. Lang.

FINANCE.—There is a credit balance of Rs. 91.87 as compared with Rs. 51.27 last year.

MEDICAL.—Your Association has pleasure in receiving the good hospital report and thanking Mr. Cudge, your visitor, for his trouble on behalf of the Association.

LABOUR is fairly settled in the district and with local Sinhalese about sufficient.

WEATHER.—Heavy rain during January did an immense amount of damage, while the N. S. W. winds were unusually severe and checked crops considerably. The weather from October to end of December was again very wet.

Crop have been fair; the weather was adverse.

PRICES have scarcely been so good as in the previous year as the flavour was not so pronounced.

PESTS.—The district is almost free from pests, shot-hole borer having been reported from one isolated field only.

CARDAMOM CROP was fair and prices very satisfactory.

TEA ESTIMATES.—Estimate for 1914 3,200,000 lbs. for 6,000 acres, a yield of 533 lbs. per acre.

D. R. C. ROADS.—Your Association deeply regret that this year we were refused a representative on the D.R.C., Nuwara Eliya, and that consequently there is no one to supervise and report on the many and bad roads in the district.

It is hoped that during 1914 our request to have a member on the Committee will be acceded to.

VOLUNTEERING.

There are only six volunteers in the district (two C.M.R. and four C.P.R.C.) all of whom attended Camp and are excused Jury service for 1914. It is to be hoped that during 1914 many more may be induced to serve their King and country.

REPORT ON MATURATA HOSPITAL.

December 17th, 1913.—I visited the Maturata Hospital on 29th of September and was shown round by Dr. Godlieb, D.M.O. There were 29 patients in the hospital

at the time, 18 males and 11 females, who were being looked after and treated well. The wards were spotlessly clean and well ventilated and there was no sign of overcrowding. No complaints were made to me at all, and all the patients appeared to be contented. The outhouses and surroundings of the hospital were well looked after and reflect great credit on the D.M.O. and his subordinates.— (Signed) W. CADGE.

LOCAL LABOUR AGREEMENT.

Mr. PAINE proposed that the local labour agreement should be amended to read:

That no estate do take on any cooly from another estate in the district without having obtained permission in writing from the Superintendent of the off-paying estate."

He said that the old agreement had worked very well indeed, but with every estate in the district (except one) a member of the new Proprietors' Labour Federation he did not think the old agreement was necessary, which he understood had been instituted some years ago for the purpose of keeping coolies from moving from estate to estate in the district, each time increasing their advances. There were at times undoubted hardships in the case of small families who wished to stay with their children when they went to another estate for marriage, and it was quite possible that one day an estate would find itself in the lucky position of having more coolies than were required, and of having to pay some off when it seemed absurd that they should not be allowed to go to a neighbour's estate who would be only too glad to take them on, but he required to leave the district altogether.

Mr. PATERSON, who seconded, said that the local labour in Udapussellawa, which was the same as that now before the meeting, had worked exceedingly well and he saw no reason why it should not work equally well in this district.

Mr. WILLIAMS disagreed and said that although perhaps with the new Proprietors' Labour Federation in force the old agreement was not quite so necessary, still if he gave permission to a neighbour to take on a gang of his coolies he failed to see how he could be refused permission if he got one of his neighbour's tunds in return. The kanganyes certainly understood the old agreement, and he doubted if they would the new one. He said he never knew any estate in the district having too much labour in the past and he doubted it in the future.

The CHAIRMAN agreed with the last speaker and opposed the motion.

After some discussion the proposal was put before the meeting and lost by 11 votes to 5.

All the members present then agreed to sign the old agreement: "That no estate do take on any cooly from another estate in the district except the one cooly for the purpose of marriage." The cost of rice was next discussed, but no agreement re charging a uniform rate per bushel for the district was arrived at.

DISTRICT ROADS AND GRANTS FOR 1914.

Mr. WILLIAMS said that during 1913 the district had been deprived of its representative on the D.R.C., Nuwara Eliya, and consequently there was no one to report on these roads.

The following motion was then unanimously carried:—"That the Chairman, D.R.C., Nuwara Eliya, be again asked to allow the district to have a representative on the Committee."

It was decided to postpone the allotment of grants till a reply had been received to the above proposal.

Messrs. PATERSON and PAINE said that the two bridges on the Ellamulla-Mandara Nuwara Road had been washed away with all abutments, and that to rebuild same would cost Rs. 2,000.

It was decided to ask the D.R.C. if they could make a grant towards same.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Kotmalie resolutions were supported.

Discussion on the Sabaragamuwa resolution was deferred as the matter was now before the Parent Association.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1914.

Mr. LYALL proposed Mr. T. H. Williams as Chairman for 1914.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. WILLIAMS having taken the chair, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman.—Carried with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN then thanked the meeting for having elected him as Chairman and proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Paine for his work as Hon. Secretary, and his re-election as Hon. Secretary.—Carried *nem con*.

The following other office-bearers were elected:—

Kandy Representative, Planters' Benevolent Fund Committee Member and Ceylon Nursing Home Committee Member:—Mr. C. F. S. Shaw.

Hospital Visitor.—Mr. W. Cadge.

The meeting then terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chair.

A. N. PAINE,

Hon. Secretary.

T. H. WILLIAMS,

Chairman.

KALUTARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the Kalutara Planters' Association was held at the Tekuwana Club on Saturday, 31st January. Mr. G. H. Gollidge presided, and others present were Messrs. J. W. Oldfield, Secretary, H. Inglis, J. F. Barkley, G. F. Plant, A.G.A., Kalutara, A. T. S. Boyle, F. J. Ingleby, K. Pfeider (visitor), A. Macdonald Smith, F. R. Dakeyne, R. Garnier, A. J. Dawson, F. N. Bridge, L. W. H. Wilkins, F. H. Griffith, P. R. Bovine, C. F.

evens, L. P. Gapp, C. R. Williams, S. J. Sproston, W. Niebecker, A. H. Haddon, W. G. Dickenson, C. E. A. as, W. P. H. Dias, C. de Alvis, C. P. Wijeratna, A. Bawa, i G. C. Malet.

DISCUSSION OVER A RULE.

The minutes of the past meetings having been read special attention was drawn to a rule which provided that a member of a Committee failed to attend three consecutive meetings he ceased *ipso facto* to be a member, though eligible for re-election.

Mr. J. R. BARKLEY said he would like to make a proviso in the case of illness.

The CHAIRMAN: He is eligible for re-election.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought this proviso was covered. If a member was ill and was prevented from attending three consecutive meetings he would be re-elected. He added that if it was wished the matter could be brought forward later. It was then pointed out that the minute had already been passed and was only up for confirmation.

The minutes were then adopted on the motion of Mr. GLIS, seconded by Mr. DAKEYNE.

APOLOGIES.

Apologies for non-attendance were announced from Messrs. Fergusson, W. Westland and Norman.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Annual Report was then read by the Secretary as follows:—

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting the 28th annual report.

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 72 estates on the register against 63 years, representing 49,200 acres under cultivation.

MEETINGS.—Two general and eight Committee meetings have been held during the year, the attendance averaging 19 and 10 respectively.

FINANCE.—The balance-sheet shows a sum of Rs. 1,171 standing to the credit of the Association, of which sum Rs. 600 is on loan to the Telephone Committee, the latter amount bearing interest at 7½ per cent. per annum.

S. P. C. A.—During the year a branch of the S. P. C. A. was started in the district. The need of this has been proved by the number of prosecutions and by the disappearance from the roads of many poorly fed and lame horses and bulls. The Association guaranteed Rs. 300, the salary of an Inspector for one year. The Association collected amounts to Rs. 235, which, with our annual subscription of Rs. 25 to the Society, leaves a balance of Rs. 10 still to be collected or paid by the Association.

The Hon. Agent's report is as follows:—

S. P. C. A., KALUTARA DISTRICT.

In September there were 5 cases, 5 convictions, with fines amounting to Rs. 57.50. In October there were 9 prosecutions and 5 convictions with fines aggregating Rs. 111. In November there were 7 prosecutions and 6 convictions with fines totalling Rs. 60. In December there were 2 cases and 2 convictions with fines amounting to Rs. 12.50, or a grand total of 23 cases, 22 convictions, and Rs. 241.50 in fines, for the three months. Nearly all the cases were for cruelty to cattle, and the work has had a very desirable effect on carters in general, as cases of cruelty are more isolated than before.

The Sub-Inspector has been very keen at his work, and has been travelling continuously throughout the district. He unfortunately developed a bad foot and has been on sick leave for nearly a month.

The work of the S. P. C. A. has had a very salutary effect on the owners of horses in Kalutara as there was scarcely a horse in a fit condition to be driven a month ago. A good many have disappeared, as the owners thought it better not to run the risk of having to appear in the Police Court. Some inconvenience was at first caused, and there were complaints that horse carriages were not obtainable, but this, I think, is disappearing as motor cars are being made more use of for long journeys.

My thanks are due to the Police Magistrate and the A. S. P. for the sympathy and assistance in carrying on the work of the Society, facilitating matters considerably.

I regret that, owing to leaving the district, Colonel Vizard resigned the honorary agency of the Horana side of the river.

F. J. INGLEBY.

Hon. Secretary.

St. George,

January 31st, 1914.

Your Committee desire to record their appreciation of the energetic way in which Colonel Vizard and Mr. Ingleby have carried out their duties as hon. agents.

WEATHER. Both Monsoons have been irregular and the rainfall has generally been below the average. During the last three months of the year rains interfered to some extent with tapping.

PLANT PESTS.—The district during the year has been very much freer from all diseases. There is still no shot-hole borer in the district, and it will be the policy of the Association to use every endeavour to prevent the introduction of this pest. The whole question of an amended Plant Pests Ordinance, and the appointment of a special entomologist to study the life history of this beetle is under consideration by Government.

RUBBER STATISTICS.—The total acreage under rubber represented by the Association is 44,369, of which 32,127 acres are in bearing and 10,212 acres are not.

	Acres.
The acreage of rubber alone in bearing is	... 25,764
do do do not in bearing is	... 8,465
do do in tea in bearing is	... 6,363
do do do not in bearing is	... 1,109
do do opened during 1913 was	... 668
do do to be opened in 1914 is	... 140
	lbs.
The estimated crop for 1913 was	... 6,616,250
The crop harvested in 1913 was	... 6,646,834
do do 1912 was	... 4,580,047
do do 1911 was	... 2,802,319

The 1913 crop was thus a little less than 3,000 tons and shows a yield per acre of 210 lbs. The estimated crop for 1914 is 9,104,050 lbs. or approximately 4,064 tons, which gives a yield per acre of 200 lbs.

In the district it is estimated that there are some 12,000 acres not belonging to the Association, with an estimated crop of 1,200,000 lbs. for 1914. This makes the total acreage under rubber in the district approximately 54,000 acres with an estimate for 1914 of 4,600 tons.

The majority of estates practically secured their estimates of those that did not the shortage was due in some cases to over sanguine methods of estimating.

It will be noted that the crop has more than doubled in the last two years, but it is not anticipated that this ratio will be maintained in the future, due to the fact that there is a comparatively small new area to come into bearing, and to the modern and less drastic methods of tapping now considered advisable.

TEA STATISTICS.—The Association represents some 12,089 acres under tea. This is 600 acres less than last year, accounted for by various acreages of tea under rubber being transferred to the latter product which also accounts for the smaller crop.

Acres.			
The acreage of Tea in bearing is	...	...	11,290
Do. not in bearing is	...	...	103
Do. opened in 1913 was	...	...	696
Do. to be opened in 1914	...	...	209
Black. Green. Total.			
lbs.			
The estimated crop in 1913	...	5,080,220	875,000 5,955,220
The crop harvested in 1913	...	4,791,899	765,110 5,557,009
The crop harvested in 1912	...	4,559,660	1,205,207 5,764,867
The crop harvested in 1911	...	4,655,992	1,350,911 6,006,903
The estimate for 1914 is	...	4,580,275	640,000 5,220,275
(excluding 92,000 lbs. from native gardens).			

The tea yield per acre in 1913 was 480 lbs. and the estimate for 1914 is 460 lbs. per acre.

In addition to the above there are some 6,000 acres of tea not belonging to the Association, with an estimated crop for 1914 of 1,500,000 lbs.

LABOUR.—It has been a good year for coast recruiting and most estates are well provided with labour. Your Committee have again pleasure in recording the continued successful working of the rules of the Association Governing Labour.

Continued attention to sanitation and the opportunities of making good pay brought about general prosperity among coolies.

LABOUR FEDERATION.—The new rules have not been in force sufficiently long for your Committee to express any opinion as to its working. The district is well represented and it is hoped that all estates will give the scheme their loyal support.

RICE.—The price of rice has been very high during the year and most estates have made heavy losses. The loss for the whole district is unprecedented and estimated at Rs. 172,000.

Although there was a drop at the end of the year, there appears to be no prospect of any permanent reduction in price.

Your Committee trust that the sub-Committee of the Parent Association appointed to go into the rice question will shortly arrive at some satisfactory scheme which will alleviate the situation.

ROADS.—The general condition of the P.W.D. roads is normal but considerable additional attention to repairs is necessary to keep pace with the increasing traffic. Bridges in the district under reconstruction are making slow progress and thereby causing considerable inconvenience and adding to the cost of transport. It is necessary to refer again to the Angurawatota Ferry, which, in spite of many promises of "improvement at an early date," is now in a very dangerous condition, both as regards the ferry boat and approaches. The latter, moreover, lack mooring ropes and poles.

Progress on the new Matugama-Balapitiya road has been slow and disappointing.

A good deal of work has been done in cutting back corners, widening, and the introduction of crossing places on the main roads, and your Committee hope to see this progressive programme continued.

D.R.C. ROADS.—There has been an improvement in these with one or two exceptions, noticeably the Agalawatte-Badureliya and Poruldanda-Hatnapangoda roads. The former is practically impassable. Government have carried out a survey and it is hoped that this is preparatory to the P.W.D. taking it over.

HOSPITALS.—A sum of money has been voted by Government for the new Pimbura Hospital, but your Committee regret that although the grant was made some 9 months ago nothing further has been done than the selection of the site. Your Committee have the matter in hand.

The new Ingiriya Hospital is about to be opened and will be a long-felt want at that end of the district.

The following is the Hospital Visitors' report on the Neboda Hospital:—

REPORT FOR 1913 ON NEBODA HOSPITAL.

I visited the hospital on 16th January, 1914, and also during 1913. On each occasion I found all the Hospital Staff present and on duty. This hospital is very well kept—the wards, bathrooms and Kitchen clean and tidy, the latrines, &c., in order.

There were no complaints from the patients and during the year I have received none from any members of the Association with regard to the hospital or care of patients.

At the time of my last visit all the patients appeared to be comfortable as their circumstances permitted.

Patients in Hospital 16th January, 1914, 36 males, 39 females, total 75. Admission in 1913, 852 males, 442 females, total 1,294.

The total number of cases treated in the hospital during 1913 was 1,363, of which number 866 only were estate labourers and families, 497 being villagers and others. Births in hospital during 1913, 7; deaths in hospital during 1913, 216.

There are four wards, two of which are now mosquito proof while all the latrines, the bath rooms, and kitchen are fly proof. In two wards iron cots have replaced the former wooden beds. The most important want of this hospital is an improved water supply. This has been under consideration of Government for some years but nothing definite has been done. I am told a new scheme is being devised, but nothing is yet settled. The only water obtainable at present is from a well in the grounds, and another further off outside. The first of these has run dry occasionally in previous years. The approach road to the hospital, which is in charge of the Public Works Department, is in a particularly bad condition. I would suggest that the Association bring this to the notice of the District Engineer.

G. THORNTON PETT.

Ambatenne, Neboda,

January 16th, 1914.

It will be noticed that others than estate labourers amount to 36 per cent. of the total patients have been treated. Your Committee again would draw attention to the urgent need of a satisfactory water supply, the vote for which was passed some years ago and found insufficient, and was therefore allowed to lapse.

VOLUNTEERS.—The strength of the Kalutara detachment of the C.P.R.C. was:—Officers 2, Sergeant 1, Corporal 1, Men 24. Total 28. Of these 20 were efficient, two on leave and six not efficient. The shooting of the detachment on the whole was good, eight being marksmen, and "E" Co. again heads the list in shooting.

C.M.R.—Your Committee regret that this Corps has not been better supported. Several members were away on leave and others resigned on leaving the district. It is hoped that the movement will receive better support this year.

POST OFFICES.—New offices have been sanctioned at Teluwat and Kudaganga. A direct service has been started between Kalutara and Matugama, giving the latter two mails a day. This is a very welcome improvement to the Matugama service and giving general satisfaction.

DISTRICT RAILWAY.—Your Committee view with great concern the subsequent decision of Government to defer consideration of the proposed District Railway, which is without doubt the most urgent need of the district. And in view of the difficulties of every form of transport affecting such an important and hitherto neglected section of the Island, your Committee will take early steps to again impress upon Government the imperative necessity of reconsidering their decision.

RIVER TRANSPORT.—The river transport throughout the district has become considerably more difficult, especially on the daganga, the navigation of which is practically impossible for some months of the year due to silting caused by the ill-advised felling of trees on the banks. It is feared that in a very few years the river will be quite useless for transport.

TELEPHONES.—The past year has been rather a bad year for telephones. Floods and several lightning storms towards the close of the year disorganised the service considerably. All the main lines have now been converted from earth to metallic circuit on substantial and permanent lines.

There seems very little doubt that when the old branch lines are put into thorough repair the whole installation will work much more smoothly and satisfactorily.

The following are the returns for 1913 :—

Period.	Calls.	Telegrams sent out.	Telegrams received.	Total Amount spent on tele.	Yearly increase in cost of tele.	No. of subscribers.
				Rs. c.		
10 total	19,881	2,312	1,811	1,225 60	—	13
10 monthly average	1,656	192	151	102 13		
11 total	29,425	3,003	3,110	1,594 25	30	% 17
11 monthly average	2,452	250	259	132 85		
12 total	41,907	3,998	4,120	2,249 40	41	% 21
12 monthly average	3,659	333	343	187 45		
13 total	69,400	4,877	4,458	3,894 10	28½	% 22
13 monthly average	5,783	406	371	241 20		

All Police Stations in the district are being connected with the telephone.

The figures given in the above returns show the enormous increase in the business being done and the importance of the installation.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.—Sanction to run motor lorries has been obtained from Government during the year. The restrictions are present very adverse to economical running, but it is expected that as the roads are improved these restricted conditions will be removed.

STRAY CATTLE.—The nuisance has in no way abated.

RUBBER THEFTS.—Your Committee are glad to be able to report that owing to the vigilance of the police there has been a considerable reduction in the number of cases of theft. Your Committee wish to place on record their appreciation of the energetic services rendered by Mr. Altendorf, A.S.P., who has now left the district.

EXCISE.—Illicit houses have to a more or less degree disappeared.

The following figures have been furnished by our member on the Excise Advisory Committee :—

	1912.	1913.
Arrack	... 91,131	90,644 gallons
Toddy	... —	46,370 „

Your Committee's thanks are due to the *Times of Ceylon*, *Ceylon Observer* and *Ceylon Independent* for sending reporters to our general meetings, and to the *Ceylon Observer* and *Ceylon Independent* for free copies of that paper.

The Chairman's Speech.

In moving the adoption of the report the CHAIRMAN said the report covered all the ground and he would not detain them long. The Committee meeting was very well attended, and a very great deal of work had been got through during the year. The poor support given to their annual meetings was probably due to the fact that most of their work must necessarily be done in Committee, which meant, that the general meeting agenda as a rule was not very attractive. Their financial position, as disclosed in the accounts, was in every way satisfactory. Their recent subscription to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals had brought most gratifying results. Their special thanks were due to Mr. Walker, of Colombo, and Colonel Vizard and Messrs. Ingleby and Pickering for the time they had so generously given in looking after this work in the district. (Hear, hear.) He hoped they would be able to renew the subscription when necessary.

THE WEATHER.

Though perhaps a little upsetting at times, and the rainfall actually short of the average, on the whole conditions were not favourable to either rubber or tea. Crops had been satisfactory, but though tea was short of the estimate, this, as the report said, was probably accounted for in the transfer of tea to the rubber area. Tea prices throughout the year had been steady, but on the other hand rubber had declined about 2s. 3d. per lb. Many questions affecting rubber planting, tapping, and treatment of latex had received, and were receiving, general attention, and although he did not think they could claim to have arrived at any conclusive results, they were collecting evidence, slowly perhaps, which would be of considerable help in the future and tend to the permanency of their rubber industry.

REDUCING THE TEA AREA.

It might possibly be of interest in passing to draw their attention to the big reduction which was to take place in tea during the next few years. The total acreage under tea was 12,000 acres, of which their figures were under rubber not in bearing. In this connection it would be noticed that tea, which had hitherto held premier place in their reports had now given way to rubber. This should not be taken as an indication that they had done with tea. Where tea had been preserved as a separate product they were able to still show some of the finest tea to be seen anywhere.

FEDERATION.

Just a word about Federation. In that district they appreciated to the full the benefits to be derived from Federation. They had their own which had been running some 18 or 20 years and had done an immense amount of goods. The Proprietors' Labour Federation was a very much bigger undertaking in every way, but given loyal support and time to get over difficulties which were bound to occur in launching a scheme of such magnitude he saw no reason to doubt but that in course of time it would run just as smoothly as theirs did.

THE DISTRICT RAILWAY.

They should not allow this very important matter to be forgotten. The need for a railway to serve the more distant parts of the district, was, he believed, not disputed. They must agitate, and keep on agitating therefore until they got it. In regard to the new Excise regulations he thought it might be said that so far as their district was concerned.

ILLICIT TAVERNS HAD PRACTICALLY DISAPPEARED, so that one of the objects of the new regulations—to suppress illicit taverns—had been accomplished. There was a feeling abroad, however, that drink and drunkenness were on the increase, and it was claimed that this was due to the increase in taverns. This was a very easy statement to make but a very difficult one to prove. The combined figures which they had just heard seemed to indicate increased consumption, accounted for probably by the increased prosperity of the country. There was more money nowadays for not only drink, but for many other things which neither the Tamil cooly nor the villager dreamt of a year or two back. The question of drunkenness among the working classes was one deserving some attention, but it was one which in his opinion ought not to be confused with the licensing of taverns. So long as a man was free to drink as much as he cared to pay for it was up to Government to see that his supply was wholesome, and under control.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

He was glad to be able to tell them that telephone and telegraph communication with the other end of the district—towards Ingiriya—on the basis of a trunk line to Panadura was receiving the attention of Government. On the understanding between Government and subscribers to the existing exchange they had every reason to expect that the trunk line would reach Neboda shortly. Government was being reminded of their responsibility in this connection.

ROADS AND TRAFFIC.

The increasing heavy traffic on their roads had brought about considerably more wear and tear, and if necessary they must ask Government for more additional attention to their upkeep. With no railway and the difficulties of river transport increasing it was most essential that the roads should be kept in first-class order. The very important outlet via Horana, now for some years in the hands of the P. W. D. had been too long under reconstruction; and the ferry at Anguruatota did not receive the attention necessary for some important a crossing. The estimated loss on rice was very heavy, and in view of the good wages prevailing it was perhaps questionable that it should have occurred, except in the case of a few estates. A good deal of the loss might be attributed to transport difficulties.

The report and accounts were then adopted.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

The retiring Chairman moved a vote of thanks to the retiring office-bearers and to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. W. Oldfield, whom he said had been of the greatest assistance throughout.

Mr. INGLIS was elected to the chair *pro tem*, and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Golledge for the work he had done during the year. He had done not only the ordinary work, but he had done a great deal of interviewing Government officers, the Postmaster-General, the General Manager of the Railways, the Colonial Secretary, etc., while he also accompanied the Colonial Secretary during his tour of the district showing him the proposed line of railway and spent a day over it. He had also attended at Kandy to look after the interests of the district there, and he thought he deserved a very hearty vote of thanks for all he had done during the past year. (Applause.)

Mr. GOLLEDGE briefly expressed his thanks, and said he had only done his duty.

A VOICE: Nobly.

Mr. INGLIS then proposed the names of Mr. J. R. Barkley as Chairman for the coming year. He mentioned that he had been a regular attendant at their Committee meetings, and had been their representative at Kandy. He quite understood what the work of the Association would be like.

Mr. GOLLEDGE seconded.

Mr. BARKLEY proposed Mr. Dawson.

Mr. DAWSON, however, said he had given due consideration to the matter and felt he must decline.

Mr. BARKLEY was thereupon elected Chairman.

The New Chairman's Thanks.

Mr. BARKLEY then thanked them for the honour, and stated that he was not quite familiar with the district. He created some amusement by stating that he could not pronounce Horannputtuwa and similar names prevailing in some parts, but he would endeavour to follow in the footsteps of Messrs. Inglis and Golledge, their former Chairmen and if he could not do as much as they had done he hoped they would forgive him.

Mr. GOLLEDGE proposed the name of Mr. Niebecker as Hon. Secretary stating that he lived near their new Chairman.

Mr. Niebecker was not then present, and it was proposed that Mr. Oldfield act as Secretary for the meeting. Both proposals were then adopted.

The Committee for 1914 were elected as follows:—

MATUGAMA.—Messrs. F. J. Ingleby, G. Thornton Pat F. H. Griffith, J. Fergusson and J. W. Oldfield.

KUDAGANGA.—Messrs. R. Garnier, N. Westland, L. J. Gapp and F. N. Bridge.

BENTOTA.—Messrs. P. H. O. Ash, A. T. S. Boyle, and K. A. Burne.

HORANA.—Messrs. C. Dias and A. J. Dawson.

NEBODA AND TEBUWANA.—Messrs. H. Inglis, W. Dickinson, F. R. Dakeyne, L. H. W. Wilkins, A. D. C. lander, G. H. Golledge, R. Powell and H. A. Nance.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Inglis, Dawson and Dickinson.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. H. Inglis.
NURSING ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE.—The Chairman.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.

Messrs. G. Thornton Pett and L. H. W. Wilkins were visitors to the Neboda Hospital, and Messrs. A. J. son and C. E. A. Dias as visitors to the Ingiriya hospital. It was also decided to ask the P. C. M. O. whether could be in order to elect visitors to Kalutara and Panahospital.

PLANT PESTS BOARD.—Messrs. W. G. Dickinson and J. W. Wilkins.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Secretary read the letter from the Parent Association with regard to membership of the Coast Agency. A resolution was published at the Dimbula meeting.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the Commissioner in is was experiencing some difficulty in discriminating between who subscribed to the Coast Agency and those who not and yet tried to benefit.

Mr. GOLLEDGE stated that the difficulty arose that many estates were not known, and it was suggested that estates wished to join the Coast Agency should join local Association, then the Secretary of the Agency could be able to make enquiries as to the standing of the estates.

The suggestion was supported.

LIQUID FUEL.

Correspondence on this matter was read. The first letter was from the Secretary of the Association to Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth pointing out that it was frequently impossible to obtain supplies of liquid fuel at Kalutara owing the supplies having run out. On occasions there had been no petrol available for six or seven days. The Association also suggested agencies at Matugama and Tebunna.

Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth regretted that supplies could have run short. The railway depot, however, only allowed the transport of petrol by goods train twice weekly. The accommodation at Kalutara was necessarily limited, and they found that the off-take of petrol had been most irregular, with the result that they had been unable to cope immediately with the entire demand. While they admitted that the stock had been exhausted once or twice lately they thought the Association must have been misinformed when they stated that consumers had been unable to obtain petrol for six and seven consecutive days. The question of opening agencies at Matugama and Tebuwana had had their most careful consideration, but they regretted the proposition was not feasible at present. Some discussion ensued in which Mr. Garnier stated that he had to send 26 miles for his petrol. Messrs. Gollidge, Dakeyne, Dickinson and Griffith also briefly spoke, the importance of liquid fuel being emphasized. The following resolution was then proposed:—That the attention of Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth be again called to the urgent need of a liquid fuel and petrol installation at Matugama and other important centres in the district."

NEBODA HOSPITAL.

The following letter was read from the Secretary to the D. E., Kalutara, dated January 21st, 1914:—

SIR,

I am directed by my Committee to enquire what steps are being taken to put in a satisfactory water supply to the Neboda Hospital.

(2.) I am under the impression that money was voted for this work, and being found insufficient the water supply was never attended to.

(3.) My Committee would also draw your attention to the state of the road leading to the hospital and ask when this road is to be put in good order.

The D. E. replied on January 27th as follows:—

With reference to your letter of the 21st instant I have the honour to inform you that some years ago money on account was provided in the supply bill for a scheme to provide an adequate supply of water to Neboda Hospital. As, however, the proposed scheme was not considered satisfactory the matter was dropped. It has recently been re-opened and a new scheme is under consideration. Funds will probably be provided in the estimates for next year for carrying out the work.

(2.) Regarding the condition of the road to Neboda Hospital I would mention that the whole length was re-metalled in November and December last, but on the 24th ultimo an exceptionally heavy storm did severe damage to the road. I have already given instructions for the repairs to be effected.

(3.) In consideration I regret the delay in replying to your letter, but I have been on circuit of late and was therefore unable to attend to it earlier.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Inglis would be able to bear out certain parts of the letter of the D. E. On Christmas eve there was a very heavy downpour.

Mr. WILKINSON said very little had been done.

COURT CERTIFICATES TO ESTATE COOLIES.

The following correspondence was read on this matter:—

Police Court, Kalutara.
 1st October, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY.

Kalutara Planters' Association,
 Gallawatta, Matugama.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of 22nd ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that 258 certificates for coolies have been issued from my Court from 1st January to 15th September, 1913.

2. Under section 26 (1) of the Ordinance No. 9 of 1909, no one but a Police Magistrate could issue the certificates on an application from a labourer supported by an affidavit.

3. The Police Magistrates are supplied by Government with printed forms (*Vide* form VI., section 26, in Schedule C of the Ordinance) for the certificates.

The affidavit should be brought by the cooly, as no one in my Court will be authorised to write petitions or affidavits for outsiders.

4. I, therefore, suggest to you to save the coolies from the hands of the dishonest petition-drawers, who, in fact, fleece those who have to go to them to get their affidavits drawn, by writing out the affidavits on the estate itself, in the form I sent you, and send them to my Court, which will prevent the cooly from spending anything in obtaining the certificates.

I am Sir,
 Your Obedient Servant,
 JOHN DE SILVA,
 Police Magistrate.

Gallewatte Estate,
Matugama, 22nd September, 1913

THE POLICE MAGISTRATE,
Kalutara.

SIR,

I am directed by my Committee to thank you for your letter of the 29th August, addressed to the Chairman.

2. My Committee were not aware that there was any great demand for Court certificates for coolies, but from paragraph 2 of your letter it appears the demand is considerable. My Committee would be glad if you could furnish us with returns of the number of such certificates issued this year. If you are unable to give the returns I shall be much obliged if you will let me know where to obtain them.

3. My Committee wish me to point out that they are of opinion that these certificates should be obtainable from no one but an official Police Magistrate.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. W. OLDFIELD,
Hon. Secretary, Kalutara P.A.

COURT CERTIFICATES TO ESTATE COOLIES.
Police Court,
Kalutara, 29th August, 1913.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association, Kalutara.

SIR,

I have the honour to bring to your notice that according to the arrangements which obtained at present, there is very considerable inconvenience, delay and expense in coolies obtaining certificates from the Police Court in order to enable them to secure employment on estates in the districts. I, therefore, wish to make a suggestion for your consideration and to ask you to let me know how far it commends itself to you.

2. I am sending herewith a form of affidavit for use on all estates. These affidavits can be filled up on the estates and brought into Court by the coolies and sworn to here.

3. This arrangement will not only prevent the coolies from falling into the hands of petition drawers and others, but will likewise expedite the issue of the certificates and thereby save the expense and delay which would be otherwise entailed.

4. It will appear from the enclosed petition sent to me by a petition drawer, that he is trying to take the whole matter into his hands for purposes of his own gain.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
JOHN DE SILVA,
Police Magistrate.

MR. GOLLEDGE said there was a feeling that there was a tremendous demand for these certificates, and they began to get suspicious. A return was asked for which showed there were 258 cases from January 1st to September 15th. This naturally aroused suspicions as to whether the applicants were bona fide Coast coolies who had not been employed on an estate for years.

The CHAIRMAN said that Secretary had already got forms that would be circulated.

LONDON SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE.

Thanks for a donation of £5 were received.

Thanks were also received for a donation of £5 towards Mr. Austen Chamberlain's fund for the extension of the London School of Tropical Medicine.

ESTATE FACTORIES.

The SECRETARY read the following correspondence, the subject:—

The Kachcheri,
Kalutara, October 1st, 1913

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kalutara Planters' Association.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of letter No. 14 of 22nd September, 1913, from the District Medical Officer, Neboda to my address, a copy of a report thereon by the Inspector of Factories and a copy of the rules therein referred to.

2. I do not desire to enter prosecutions in these cases, as there seems to be a serious neglect of the rules in the Kalutara district, and prosecutions will be necessary if this continues.

3. I think, however, that if you would be so good enough to bring the matter before your Committee, some means might be devised of securing the due observance of the regulation by the planting community, without my having to report to the Police Court.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
G. F. PLANT, A.G.A.

(Copy of Report Referred to.)
Telambugastenne,
Kandy, September, 27th, 1913.
September 24th, 1913.

No. 58.

This accident has apparently not been reported by the Superintendent in accordance with Rule 48.

This place is not registered as a factory and has not been reported by the Superintendent as required under the provision Rule 38. Last month, August, 1913, five factories were for and inspected, the opening of which had not been reported as required by terms of Rule 38, last clause. The existence of the factories was discovered by the Inspector by chance. Four of these factories were situated in Kalutara District, viz., W. A. 65, W. A. 66, W. A. 67.

I would propose, therefore, that the Superintendent of Liskillan be prosecuted for non-observance of Rules 48 and 38, last clause.

N. WOODHOUSE,
Inspector of Factories

(Copy of Letter Referred to.)

No. 148.
From the District Medical Officer, Neboda.
To the Assistant Government Agent, Kalutara.
FACTORY ACCIDENT.

September 22nd, 1913.

SIR,

I have the honour to report that a patient named Tanagera of Liskillan estate, was admitted into hospital today, with lacerated wounds of four fingers of the left hand alleged to have been the result of a machinery accident in the factory at Liskillan estate.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
E. W. SCHARANGUIVEL, D.M.O.

Mr. DAKEYNE asked how many factories were covered.

The SECRETARY: Five were discovered, of which four were in Kalutara district.

The CHAIRMAN said it was an excellent record for Kalutara. He expressed the hope that the rules relating to rivers would be observed in future.

RIVER SILTING.

Correspondence was read as follows:—

Gallawatte estate,
Matugama, 12th June, 1913.

No. 11,034.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

I am directed by this Association to enquire whether Government will send an Irrigation Engineer to this district to inspect state of the Kaluganga and Kudaganga rivers.

Traffic on the latter river has been practically impossible during the last dry season. This is due to the presence of rocks, dhanks, trees, etc., in the fairway.

The Association considers that this serious interference with traffic demands an expert opinion as to whether anything can be done to improve the condition of these rivers.

I would point out that the Kudaganga is the only means of transport available for a large acreage in this district, and that it is very difficult during the last two years or so that these obstructions have become so evident.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. W. OLDFIELD.

Hon. Secretary, Kalutara Planters' Association,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 1st September, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kalutara Planters' Association.

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter dated 26 June, I am directed by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to state that according to Government's information the navigation of the Kaluganga is not a matter of health except at the Naragala rapids, and these it is hardly practicable to improve.

2. With regard to the Kudaganga the chief difficulty appears to be the shallowness of the stream due to heavy deposits of silt on the large clearings opened in the watershed of this river and its tributaries during recent years. It is hoped, however, that this source of obstruction will soon disappear, now that large clearing operations have ceased. Other sources of danger are rocks and dhanks in the fairway. In order to remedy this an annual vote of Rs. 1,200 has been sanctioned by Government for clearing the Kaluganga, Kudaganga, and Maguruganga. Where possible the dhanks have been blasted; those which it is not possible to remove are said to be well-known to the boatmen, who can usually avoid them.

3. As to the dhanks, the Assistant Government Agent, Kalutara, reports that most of the worst ones have been removed, while others are being taken to have all the remaining dhanks dealt with at the earliest possible opportunity. When this has been done the navigation of the Kudaganga will not be difficult for ordinary traffic at normal times, and, even, in the dry season, though it may be difficult in places, it will not be dangerous.

4. In these circumstances His Excellency does not think that there is any immediate need for an Irrigation Engineer to inspect the rivers in question.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
D. W. ARNOTT,
For Colonial Secretary,
Matugama,
October 19th, 1913.

J. W. OLDFIELD, Esq.,
Gallawatte.

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 25th ultimo, I have not seen any work going on myself in connection with blasting rocks and removing dhanks and I am unable to find anybody who has, but I have no doubt a certain amount has been done, but there is a good deal more required. I do not think the vote of Rs. 1,200 for the three rivers is sufficient.

Yours faithfully,
R. GARNIER.

Mr. Garnier and Mr. Gapp briefly referred to the subject.

THE RUBBER EXHIBITION.

A letter was read from the Committee of the above and the Chairman reminded them that they must get their exhibits ready by April, and that estates intending to exhibit must have them earlier, about March 15th. There was a lot of work to be done. He hoped Kalutara would support the exhibit.

THE RURAL MEMBER.

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the fact that Messrs Huyshe Eliot and the Hon. Mr. Wm. Sinclair were standing for Rural Membership, and pointed out the necessity of paying their subscriptions before sending their proxies.

DISTRICT RAILWAY.

The SECRETARY read the correspondence on the subject:—

Gallawatte estate,
Matugama, 29th December, 1913.
THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

SIR,

On behalf of this Association I write to enquire what the position is with regard to the proposed railway through the Kalutara District, and whether the preliminary trace is to be carried out.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
J. W. OLDFIELD,
Hon. Secretary.

Kalutara Planters' Association,
KALUTARA RAILWAY EXTENSION,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, January 10th, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kalutara Planters' Association.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 29th December, 1913, regarding the proposed Kalutara Railway Extension, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that, in view of more urgent finan-

cial commitments. His Excellency regrets that it is not possible at the moment to proceed with the proposal, and has reluctantly found himself obliged to order that the preliminary survey of the trace shall be deferred.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
D. W. ARNOTT,
For Colonial Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the subject had been mentioned in the annual report. They still had to agitate for the railway. He stated that His Excellency was quite in sympathy with Kalutara, and would endeavour to do all he could.

AUDITOR.

Mr. F. R. Dakeyne was elected auditor in place of Mr. Miller who has left the district.

The usual vote of thanks terminated the meeting.

PASSARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting was held at 9 a.m. on January 31st, in the Passara Gun Club Pavilion. The business to be placed before the general meeting was discussed. The following members were present:—Messrs. D. G. Norman (Chairman), J. J. Robinson, B. Strachan (Acting Hon. Secretary), H. Clarke, G. F. Cornish, and R. S. Armstrong.

The 21st annual general meeting was held at 10.30. Besides those already mentioned the following were present:—Messrs. A. W. Bisset, R. C. Vernon, Thos. Sim (visitor), H. B. Bremner, R. P. Walker, F. W. Eardley Liesching, A. D. Cave (visitor), W. H. Field (visitor), C. H. Walker (visitor), J. Walker (visitor), H. Jones, W. Sewart Taylor, Reg. Gatehouse (Chairman, Badulla P.A.), R. Bannerman, F. Fowler, W. Evans (visitor), S. C. Biddell, and R. Ashby.

Notice of meeting was read. Minutes of previous meeting were confirmed.

ACCOUNTS.

These were laid on the table. The Chairman stated that they had a credit balance of Rs. 291.77 as against 1912 of Rs. 294.22.

The usual Rs. 100 honorarium was voted to the Hon. Secretary, and Rs. 50 to the Passara Gun Club.

MOTOR MAIL SERVICE.

No definite reply has been received to the letter dated November 5th, the Chairman stated.

J.P. AND U.P.M.

Read letter from Mr. Biddell resigning the post of J.P. and U.P.M. for Lunugala district. Mr. Fowler was nominated by the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP.

Read letter from the Superintendent of Bibile estate resigning from the Association. It was decided to write him pointing out, that, although he never attended the

meetings and was not in the Passara district, he still derived the benefit of the Association's work, and wishing to point this out to his Company.

PARENT ASSOCIATION.

Read letter from the Parent P.A. re Coast Agency Cess. It was decided to support the amended resolution "That in view of the need to extend the working of the Coast Agency this Association considers it desirable that the contribution should be raised." Also that the matter be taken up at once.

COAST AGENCY MEMBERSHIP.

Read letter from Parent P. A. It was decided to strongly support the Parent Association's resolution.

Read letter from Kotmale P. A. re Warehouse Rents and Postal Pillar Boxes. Both resolutions were supported.

MEDICAL SCHEME FOR UVA.

Mr. GATEHOUSE again addressed the meeting. After some discussion the Chairman asked members who had any views to express to forward them to the Hon. Secretary, and the sub-Committee, which was appointed last meeting, could lay them before the Joint Provincial Meeting.

RINDERPEST.

The Chairman stated that since the last meeting the District had been free from rinderpest, but regretted that he had just heard that rinderpest had broken out between Bibile and Senkaladi, but Government were taking every precaution.

ARUGAM BAY AND PASSARA RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN stated that he had received a communication from the Government Agent wishing to know "if Arugam Bay was opened as a fair weather port would it be sufficient for the Moneragalla planters and would they use it in preference to a railway in the event of a railway being extended to Passara." The Chairman forwarded these letters to the planters concerned and the reply was that they would use Arugam Bay.

PASSARA-NAKALLA ROAD.

Read letter from Government Agent re Passara Nakalla road. He wrote "that in view of this road not being used by the Moneragalla planters when Arugam Bay was opened, they would suggest to Government that when the present section now under construction has been completed expenditure should not be incurred and the cutting of the road be stopped."

Mr. ROBINSON stated that this was a most selfish way of looking at this matter, as the Government Agent seems to have lost sight of the fact that this road was not being constructed solely for the benefit of the Moneragalla planters' outlet, but that it would benefit a very large native population and encourage the opening up of a large area of land. He also was prepared to prophesy that, if the rail comes to Passara, and this road is cut, the Moneragalla planters would use this outlet in preference to Arugam Bay. He strongly urged this Association to press for the completion of this road to Nakalla.

Mr. Armstrong for Moneragalla, spoke in support. It was decided to write the Government Agent.

P. W. D. AND GRANTS.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the Association's previous resolutions had been forwarded to the Parent P. A. and the Hon. Rural Member for support. The secretary of the Parent P. A. replied that the Committee of the P. A. had supported the resolution, but after a short discussion this resolution was withdrawn on the Hon. the Rural Member undertaking to approach the Director of Public Works direct.

The CHAIRMAN stated that, although they had received information about the Passara hospital and the Passara-Vakalla road, the figures of votes and expenditure for 1912-1913 on various works entrusted to the P.W.D. had not as yet been received.

Mr. BANNERMAN proposed "That this P.A. do ask the Parent P.A. to obtain not only the figures for the year 1912-13, but for the last ten years, and have them tabulated."—Carried unanimously.

The Hon. the Rural Member wrote that he had called on the Acting Director of Public Works and was informed that the Passara hospital would be completed by March 1916.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. G. Kent Deaker for speaking to the resolutions in this P.A.'s name at the Parent P. A. meetings.

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary's office enclosing a letter from the General Manager of the C.G.R. with regard to the slip on the Railway at Haputale. It was decided to write thanking the G. M. for this letter.

TELEPHONES.

The CHAIRMAN said that further particulars had been received from the Government, and suggested that a sub-Committee be appointed to draw up a District Scheme. The following were elected:—Messrs. D. G. Norman, R. Bannerman and H. Clarke.

HOSPITAL REPORTS.

The following were laid on the table:—

BADULLA HOSPITAL.

I visited this hospital on the 24th of January, 1914, illness having prevented my having done so before the last year closed.

There are 140 beds in all the buildings both permanent and temporary; at the time of my visit 128 were occupied by patients, leaving only 12 beds unoccupied at this very healthy season of the year, a very serious look-out when the unhealthy seasons set in, and I do not think the authorities can humanely allow the slightest delay in hastening the completion of the Passara Hospital, if they really wish to help the sick when the unhealthy season comes on and overcrowds the Badulla Hospital.

The staff in charge of the hospital are the D.M.O., D.M.A., two apothecaries, 1 steward, 1 opium seller, 1 matron and 3 nurses. Seeing the large number of patients, this hospital holds, the number of nurses, in my opinion, is inadequate to properly look after them all as they should be, and at least two more nurses should be provided.

I found the hospital in a very perfect state of cleanliness and the food supplies seemed to be sufficient, both in quality and quantity.

All this does great credit to those responsible for the very excellent state and management of this hospital.

The drive from the main road to the hospital should be made into paved and metalled road. As it now is, the least rain turns this road into a quagmire, the muddy ruts make it very painful for patients when being carted over this road, not to mention the probability of mosquitoes making these ruts their happy breeding ground.

(Signed) J. J. ROBINSON.

MUPPANE HOSPITAL.

Visited on 14th January, 1914. The whole place is very clean and exceedingly well looked after; there are practically no flies, and the latrines are free from any smell except disinfectants and the state of the hospital reflects great credit on Dr. Jayasuriya and his staff.

1913 was generally an unhealthy year in Ceylon and was so in this district. However, there was but little overcrowding during the year, the largest number of patients being 55 on December 20th, and there was accommodation for 50. We would point out that although an Operating Ward was sanctioned in 1912 no steps whatever have been made towards erecting this building, and as the want of such a place is often greatly felt, we think that the attention of the Director of Public Works should be called to this matter.

A start has been made with the servants' quarters. It is quite time too, as they have been living in cadjan sheds erected outside the hospital precincts.

JOHN MARKS
A. D. HARTRIDGE

LUNUGALLA HOSPITAL.

Visited on January 26th, 1914. Present: the apothecary, and staff. The D.M.O., Mr. Bartholomewsz, was absent on a call.

	Patients.	Beds.
Female Medical Ward	13	12
Female Diarrhoea Ward	5	8
Male Medical Ward	26	16
Male Diarrhoea Ward	7	6
	<hr/> 51	<hr/> 42

The male wards have always been overcrowded and during the year superintendents of estates have frequently been notified by the D.M.O. that no more patients, except very serious cases could be admitted to the hospital, the wards being overcrowded; thus sick coolies, who, in the ordinary course would receive medical treatment in the hospital, received merely out-door treatment at the dispensary. Although new wards were sanctioned as long ago as last September, absolutely nothing had been done at the date of our visit, nor had any building materials been transported to the site. The latrines and grounds were clean, and there were no complaints.

CEMENTING ROUND THE WARDS.—The visitors for the last three years have urged the necessity of laying down cement between the edge of the verandahs and the cement drains, but nothing has been done, and it seems useless to suggest anything; the suggested works are frequently promised but are not carried out.

The smallness of the store-room has frequently been mentioned, but, as usual, nothing has been done.

As an illustration of the inadequateness of the wards, on October 20th, 1913, there were 100 patients in them, there being only 40 beds to accommodate them. During practically the whole of September and October last, the wards were in a similar congested condition. The wood-work in the female latrine was noticed to be in a decaying state, as is also the bottom of some of the verandah posts.

In conclusion, we would urge Government to have the new wards built with as little delay as possible, and before the hot sickly season commences.

S. C. RIDDELL

G. F. CORNISH.

It was decided to forward a copy of the Lunugala hospital report to the Colonial Secretary to be handed to H.E. the Governor.

Further discussion took place, and, in view of the unsatisfactory condition of Lunugala Hospital and the inability of Government placing a dispensary at the further end of Madulsima and Mr. Clark's resolution, "That owing to the still unsatisfactory state of the Medical department in Madulsima, the P.C.M.O. be asked to replace the present D.M.A. by a first grade man," it was decided to ask Government to build a small hospital in Madulsima and stop the proposed extensions to Lunugala hospital, which when completed would not be sufficient for accommodating patients from Madulsima and part of Passara.

Read letter from the P.C.M.O. enclosing the following letter from the Provincial Surgeon, Uva:—

I have the honour to report that there is no necessity for the establishment of a dispensary for Upper Madulsima.

2. With the exception of Roeberry, Karagawilla, Dehigalla, Uva and Arawa estates which are the only ones far away from the Madulsima dispensary, the others are within easy reach and can be visited and returned within the day.

3. The Roeberry Estates Co. and Arawa and Uva Estates should employ two good estate dispensers for the two groups and put up two hospitals for the better treatment of the coolies.

The CHAIRMAN thought that as this P.A. was asking for a hospital for Madulsima, it was hardly necessary to reply to the P.S.'s letter which in itself acknowledges a good deal.

Mr. BREMNER wished to propose that visitors to dispensaries be appointed, for the Madulsima dispensary was continually short of drugs.

Mr. BANNERMAN thought that it was unnecessary and that superintendents having complaints to make should write the P.C.M.O. direct.

After a short discussion, the motion was put to the vote and was lost by the casting vote of the Chairman.

The annual report was then read.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PASSARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION FOR 1913.

The Committee has pleasure in presenting the 21st annual report:—

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 34 estates on the roll of this Association, as against 34 last year. Park estate having resigned, and Blarneywatte joined.

MEETINGS.—Four general and four Committee Meetings were held; the attendance was exceptionally good.

FINANCES.—The accounts, duly audited, are laid on the table. They show a credit balance of Rs. 291.77, as against last year of Rs. 294.22.

ACREAGE AND CROPS.

TEA.			
Total acreage.	In bearing.	Estimate 1914.	
12,858	116,681½	6,706,375 lbs.	
RUBBER.			
7,759	4,665½	946,550 lbs.	
CARDAMOMS.			
61	61	4,000 lbs.	
TEA AND RUBBER.			
85	85	40,000 lbs.	
COCOA AND RUBBER.			
374	369	24,800 lbs.	
TEA NATIVE.			
		10,000 lbs.	

TEA.—This year has certainly been a poor one and 1913 Estates were short of Estimates.

RUBBER.—This product was not affected by the weather conditions to the same extent as tea, and in most cases estimates were realized.

WEATHER.—The year under review must be one of the worst ever experienced in Uva, with an abnormal rainfall and a severe drought. The Committee regrets to state that many estates suffered considerable damage.

LABOUR.—On the whole a slight improvement can be noticed. The Passara Labour Federation continues to do good. It is hoped that the Proprietors' Labour Federation will do good and certainly deserves a fair trial. Your Committee view with apprehension the shortage of labour in the P.W.D. and regret that little or no improvement can be reported.

Roads on the whole have been in a fair condition, except in the Muppane-Wellaweya.

Your Committee is pleased to state that the widening of roads is in hand and although the work is slow it is gratifying to see a start being made.

Your Committee would like to place on evidence the prompt manner the various washaways were temporarily repaired, but fear that the general upkeep and laying down of metal has suffered in consequence.

Your Committee has to report that Government do not propose cutting the Passara-Nakalla road further than the present section, as the Moneragalla planters do not intend to use this as their outlet, but the Government seems to have lost sight of the fact that this road would benefit a very large native population and help to open up the district.

RAILWAYS.—This too has suffered very severely and it became more necessary than ever to have an alternate outlet for Uva. Your Committee regrets that practically no notice has been taken of this Association's representations on this point. The matter must not be allowed to drop.

TRANSPORT.—Your Committee has pleasure in stating that motor-lorries are allowed on all roads now, with only a few restrictions. Except for a short period at the beginning of the year transport in the district has been satisfactory.

RINDERPEST.—Several small outbreaks occurred during the year, but were kept in hand by the prompt measures taken by the authorities, who should be congratulated on the state of affairs.

PESTS.—Shot-hole borer does not appear to be on the decrease.

RESTHOUSES.—Your Committee regret that little or no improvement can be reported in the general condition of the resthouse in fact the condition is worse than ever in some cases.

TELEPHONES.—Little progress has as yet been made, although a great deal of correspondence has taken place. The Government rates in a scattered district as this are rather prohibitive. Committee has been selected to go into this at once.

VOLUNTEERING.—Both the C.M.R. and C.P.R.C. are to be congratulated on the progress made, and your Committee trusts

at both Corps will continue to be strongly supported, and wish new Madulsima section all success.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.—Your Committee hope that Government will see their way to cease making the frequent changes in Uva officials, as has been the case in the past few years. These frequent changes do immense harm. The public, both European and native, can have little confidence in their provincial officials when they hardly get to know and understand them, when they are again removed. It has an especially bad effect on the confidence between the native community and the Government. In the past times our Government Agents remained in charge of a province for several years, and both European and native got to know them and have confidence in them. With a Government Agent changing in the Province for several years, he gets to know all the proper classes and when it is necessary to appoint a headman he is far better able to use his own judgment than in the case when he is practically a stranger in the Province. His being in closer touch with the province goes a long way to guard against corruption.

In our present Government Agent we have a gentleman who we all feel we are going to always have the greatest faith in and our sincere hope is that the authorities will see their way to leaving him in charge of this Province for many years.

Your Committee trusts that 1914 will be a better year for the district than 1912.

The CHAIRMAN, in resigning, said that he felt that the Association had not accomplished very much during the year, but it seems to have been the policy of Government to defer mark time, due, no doubt, to their having an Acting Governor, Acting Director of Public Works, and an Acting C.M.O. The year had been a poor one for the districts, which had suffered serious damage through floods and a prolonged drought, and he hoped that they would be able to look back to 1914, as a very fine year. Transport had been fairly satisfactory, except for the first few months of the year. It is pleasing to see that the work of widening the roads has been commenced, although progress is slow. In leaving the chair he thanked the Committee and members for their support, most of the meetings being exceptionally well attended.

Mr. ROBINSON was voted to the chair *pro tem*. He thanked the retiring Chairman, who had for six months acted as Chairman and Hon. Secretary. He thought that quite as much as usual had been accomplished, especially ratifying being that the matter of having combined meetings of the whole of the Uva P.A.'s was now an accomplished fact. He regretted that he could not persuade the retiring Chairman to take office again, but had pleasure in proposing Mr. Bannerman's name as Chairman, and he also knew that Mr. Ireson was prepared to be Hon. Secretary if he was elected.

Mr. Bannerman's name was then placed before the meeting, and he was elected Chairman unanimously.

Mr. BANNERMAN thanked the meeting for the honour they had done him.

Mr. Ireson was elected Hon. Secretary, Mr. Norman agreeing to act until Mr. Ireson's arrival in the Island at the end of February.

The following office-bearers were elected:—

COMMITTEE.

PASSARA.—Mr. D. G. Norman.

MONERAGALLA.—Mr. J. Mark

NAMUNUKULA.—Mr. B. Strachan.

LUNUGALA.—Mr. F. Fowler.

MADULSIMA.—Mr. H. Clarke.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. J. Duncan, G. Kent Deaker, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Badulla, Mr. J. J. Robinson, Lunugala, Messrs. F. Fowler and T. Massy; Muppane, Messrs. J. Marks and Trail; Butale, Mr. G. L. Horsfall.

AUDITOR.—Mr. J. Duncan.

P.R.C.—Mr. R. Bannerman.

RAILWAY SUB-COMMITTEE.—Messrs. J. J. Robinson, D. Norman, J. Duncan, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

PASSARA LABOUR FEDERATION COMMITTEE.—Messrs. B. Strachan, H. B. Bremner, J. J. Robinson, A. W. Bisset, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—Messrs. J. J. Robinson and Chairman.

S.P.C.A.—Mr. J. J. Robinson.

MINOR ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN asked members to send in to him as soon as possible their applications for grants.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. STRACHAN proposed the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this Association, when mails are delayed, more details should be telegraphed to the postmasters in order that they may supply this information to the various estates served by them."—After discussion it was decided to ask the P.M.G. to do his best to give any information available.

Mr. H. CLARKE proposed: "That Badulla P.A. be asked to place more protection rails and raised culverts on the Passara-Madulsima road as at present these are insufficient."—Carried.

Mr. H. CLARKE proposed: "That Badulla P.A. be asked to combine with our P. A. to draw up a stipulated stipend for the clergyman of the district, as at present no fixed salary is allotted." In speaking to his resolution Mr. Clarke pointed out that the clergy were paid by the P. A.'s in some districts.

Mr. BISSET pointed out that Badulla church could not be compared with some other churches, as Badulla church was consecrated, while other churches in the hands of P.A.'s were not.

After further discussion it was decided that it was not a matter for this P.A. The CHAIRMAN hoped that members would subscribe privately.

The CHAIRMAN expressed pleasure at seeing so many members of Badulla P. A. and visitors present.

A vote of thanks to the chair closed the meeting.

Hon. Secretary.

KEGALLE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Kegalle Planters' Association was held at the Resthouse, Kegalle, on January 31st, at 1-30 p.m., preceded by a Committee Meeting at 10 a.m. Present:—Messrs. Jackson Smale (Chairman), A. E. Barrs, P. F. Ondaatje, A. G. Bayley, G. O. Trevaldwin, J. H. Lukin, C. T. Sinclair, J. S. Larkin, H. Habgood, E. G. Ward Simpson, J. I. Jamieson, and R. R. Oakley, and, as visitors, Messrs. T. G. Willet, W. G. Howie, C. A. Farr, H. G. Hickey, I. S. Marshall, E. A. Tarbet, and P. McConnell.

Letters of regret for inability to be present were received from Messrs. G. R. Massy, H. de Leslie Tupper, V. Lamb, F. Pattison, and E. F. Gould.

Owing to the Secretary, Mr. J. R. Thistle, having met with an accident, Mr. R. R. Oakley was deputed to act as Secretary.

The notice convening the meeting was read, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters received from the superintendents of Glenalla and Ugeside and Kalapana estates resigning from the Association, as their interest lay in the Kelani Valley, were read and their resignation accepted.

The SECRETARY then read the annual report for 1913:—

ANNUAL REPORT 1913.

Your Committee have pleasure in laying before you the 10th annual report:—

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 38 estates on the register and one private member.

MEETINGS.—There have been four general meetings and five Committee, all being well attended.

FINANCE.—These are in a satisfactory condition, the balance at the end of the year being Rs. 149.63.

THE OFFICIAL CROP.—Estimates for 1914 are as follows:—

	Total acreage.	Acreage in bearing.
Tea	4,499	8,462
Estimated Crop.		
Black tea	...	1,444,400
Green tea	...	60,000
Total	...	1,504,400

Yield per acre 464 lbs. (this includes tea interplanted with rubber):—

	Total acreage.	In bearing.
Rubber	11,500	8,905
Estimated crop.		Per acre.
	2,185,000	245 lbs.

SEASON AND CROP.—The beginning of the year was favourable to crop, but the last three months were not. Notwithstanding the wet weather estimates were obtained in part of the district, but other parts felt the bad weather in the last three months and estimates were not obtained. October was the wettest month, and 45 inches to 50 inches of rain were registered in the district.

PEST—RUBBER.—Owing to the wet weather there is a little bark rot and canker. Mr. J. I. Jamieson has been nominated our member on Plant Pest Board.

ROADS—MAIN ROAD.—Your Committee regret to say that there is no improvement in the roads in the district, in fact they are in a much worse state than in 1912. The heavy rains and floods did a lot of damage, but if the roads and side drains had been in better order, the damage would not have been so great. The Maha Oya bridge was completely washed away in October by the floods.

MINOR ROADS.—These are as usual in a very bad state. There has been an attempt to improve portions of these. The grants for the general upkeep of all D. R. C. roads are totally inadequate. Some of the minor roads are impassable to carts, and as these roads are the feeders to the estates, transport has been greatly impeded.

TRANSPORT.—Owing to the washing away of the Maha Oya bridge in October, the transport difficulties have increased. The Kegalle and Undugoda side of the district for a time have had to transport their goods to Ambepussa Station eight miles further than Polgahawela Station. The goods-shed at Ambepussa was inadequate for the increase of goods. Your Committee thank the P.W.D. for having a ropeway and wire-foot bridge erected over the Maha Oya which is working satisfactorily. The want of sheds at each end is badly felt for storing goods.

DELAY OF MAILS.—The delay of mails during the floods caused great inconvenience. No real effort was made by the Postal authorities to get mails transported regularly during this period by any other route, which was possible. It is hoped that in any future emergency some better arrangement will be made to cope with the situation.

LABOUR.—The labour in the district is much more settled. This is due to Local Federation, and it is to be hoped that this spirit will continue among its members, of which the whole of the district are members. There has been a satisfactory influx of coolies to the district during the past year. There is an improvement in the outturn of local labour.

KEGALLE HOSPITAL REPORT, 1913.

REPORT OF THE HOSPITAL VISITOR, M.P.A.

BUILDINGS.—A new female ward was completed in October, 1913. This ward consists of two portions (1) a medical ward with 12 beds, and (2) a maternity ward with two beds. The medical portion of the ward is mosquito and fly proof. A new block consisting of a kitchen (fly and mosquito proof) and store rooms was also completed in 1913. A new diarrhoea ward for male patients is also nearing completion. This ward will accommodate 20 beds and it is to be fly and mosquito proof throughout. A new administration block is to be taken in hand immediately. This block will consist of a dispensary, apothecary's quarters accommodation and consulting room for the outdoor patients and office for the D.M.O. This block will be built on the site where the present apothecary's quarters and dispensary stand and which latter buildings are to be pulled down at once. The other wards at present in use are a temporary surgical and diarrhoea ward with cadjan roof. This ward is to be replaced by a new ward. It is to be noted that this temporary ward was erected over the cement flooring of an old ward which was pulled down and the flooring remains at the request of the Association. Another ward in use is male ward for diarrhoea and ulcer cases. This is an old ward which is soon to be improved. There is also a new medical and surgical ward erected not long ago containing 12 beds and The total accommodation in the hospital is 70 beds, but accommodation can be found for another 15 beds if necessary without any inconvenient over-crowding. All the buildings are clean, well kept, sanitary and so are the immediate surroundings. The Undugoda Hospital will be ready for occupation in the beginning of March, 1914. The Mawanella Dispensary is in course of construction. Supplies will be voted for a hospital to be erected at Aranayaka next year. Supplies have been voted for two dispensaries to be constructed at (1) Dedigama and (2) Pindit, and these should be completed in the course of the year.

STAFF.—The staff of the hospital has been increased by the appointment of a qualified doctor to act as Assistant to the D.M.O. This appointment which was asked for for some time past by the Association was filled in September, 1913. It is to be hoped that this post will always be filled and that by a qualified doctor, it is a matter of regret that there are no qualified nurses attached to this hospital. The patients are in charge of the attendants only after the D.M.O. has made his daily rounds through the hospital. A suggestion should be made to the P.C.M.O. recommending the appointment of a nurse or nurses.

PATIENTS.—The total number of cooly patients for the year was 454. The chief disease for which these coolies were admitted to the hospital were (1) dochmens and (2) chronic malaria.

The patients seemed contented and had no complaints.

DRUGS.—The Assistant D.M.O. says that all necessary medicines and other requirements are in stock.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.—The telegraph Office at Undugoda opened in 1912 has been found a great "boon" to the district. The post office at Ambepussa has been sanctioned.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—This fund has been well supported, and we hope those members who do not subscribe will do so in 1914.

JACKSON SMALE.

The annual report together with the revenue account for 1913 was then put to the meeting and passed.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

The CHAIRMAN addressing the meeting, said that there was very little that he could say in addition to the report which had just been submitted. Taken on the whole, the year had been a very successful one for the district. Early in the year crop had come in well and this had to some extent made up for a disappointing December. Reviewing the year's work of the Association he was pleased to say that the Postmaster-General had sanctioned a Post Office at Ambepussa, which, as soon as particulars had been supplied, would be put into operation. As regards hospitals the meeting would see from the Annual Report that several new wards in the Kegalle Hospital were being rebuilt, in fact he might almost say a new hospital was being erected. At Undugoda the new hospital was on the eve of being opened and he hoped they would soon be in it. (Laughter.) A dispensary had been sanctioned and site chosen at Dedigama, and that of Pindeniya was nearing completion. It was proposed to have a hospital at Aranyaka and the site had already been surveyed. Before vacating the chair he wished to thank all members for their support in the past and particularly the Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. R. Thistle) for his kind co-operation and the hard and efficient work he had put in during his terms of office. It was a matter of deep regret to all he was unable to be present on that day.

Mr. Smale then vacated the chair.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. A. E. BARRS was voted temporarily to the chair. He said that he wished to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for his most useful work during the year. Mr. Smale had given up a great deal of his time to the interests of the Association and as could be seen from the report a great deal had been achieved. He was quite sure that all the members were greatly indebted to Mr. Smale for his efforts and he thought that he could not do better

than propose him for re-election, until such time as he went on leave.

The motion seconded by Mr. TREVALDWYN was then put to the meeting and carried with applause.

Before leaving the chair, Mr. BARRS said he would like to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the Secretary for his good work and to couple with it one of regret for the slight motor accident Mr. Thistle had sustained. This motion being seconded, was put to the house and carried.

Mr. SMALE, on resuming the chair, thanked them all for the honour done to him and said that he would do all he could to further the interests of the Association. He said that as Mr. Thistle was unable to stand for re-election as Hon. Secretary, owing to pressure of work, he was open to receive nominations for that post.

Mr. R. R. Oakley proposed by Mr. ONDAATJIE and seconded by Mr. HARGOOD being willing to stand, was duly elected.

The following other appointments were made:—

GENERAL COMMITTEE.—Messrs. G. O. Trevaldwyne, H. Hargood, P. F. Ondaatjie, A. A. Franklin, E. G. Ward Simpson, J. I. Jamieson, H. de Leslie Tupper and G. R. Massy.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. P. F. Ondaatjie, A. A. Franklin (Kegalle), G. O. Trevaldwyne (Undugoda), J. I. Jamieson (Aranyaka).

PLANT PESTS BOARD.—Mr. J. I. Jamieson.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.—Mr. A. E. Barrs.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Chairman, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. E. G. Ward Simpson.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—The Chairman and Mr. E. G. Ward Simpson.

AUDITOR.—Mr. J. I. Jamieson.

ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN then said that the first subject for discussion was that of roads. A letter had been written to the Director of Public Works complaining about the condition of roads throughout the District. He would ask the Secretary to read the reply which had been received.

ROADS IN KEGALLE DISTRICT.

Colombo, January 15th, 1914.

From the Director of Public Works.

TO THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kegalle Planters' Association.

SIR,

With reference to your letter dated 18th December, 1913, I have the honour to inform you that, taking into consideration the immense amount of damage caused by the floods on the 5th October, and that on four later occasions considerable lengths of road in the Kegalle district were submerged and washed, the present condition of the roads in charge of this department may be considered very satisfactory.

2. In view of the extension of motor traffic, increased provision for maintenance and road widening and improvement on certain roads will be necessary and will be considered in connection with the estimates for 1914-15.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
T. H. CHAPMAN,
Director of Public Works.

During the discussion which followed on the reading of this letter, the general opinion of the meeting seemed to be that the state of roads was far from satisfactory. Especially so was this the case with the Kegalle-Undugoda road.

Mr. BAYLEY, speaking of the Mawanella-Rambukkana road, said that it was in a very bad state, in fact that there was not a single road satisfactory in the District.

Mr. SINCLAIR said that at the corner near the 37½ mile stone on the Colombo-Kandy road, some cutting away had been done but not sufficient to give a clear view of the road. That there was also a caddy there which ought to be removed. He hoped the Association would approach the P.W.D. on this matter.

Mr. LUKIN complained that railings had not yet been put at the Paragamma bend on the Kegalle-Bulatochupitiya road.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had heard from the District Engineer to the effect that the road was not sufficiently broad to admit of railings.

Mr. BARRS suggested that the roads should be built straight across and so do away with the bend.

The CHAIRMAN asked Mr. Barrs to put that in the form of a resolution, which was seconded by Mr. LUKIN and carried. The resolution was as follows:—

"That Government be asked to straighten out the dangerous corner at the 1½ mile on the Kegalle-Bulatochupitiya road, by diverting the road from the old course to a straight trace."

Mr. TREVALDWYN submitted a resolution to the meeting "That the D.P.W. be written to and requested to have all corners between Undugoda and Morantota cut back in order to make this road suitable for motor traffic." This was seconded by the CHAIRMAN and on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

Mention was also made by Mr. Barrs of the state of the main road out of Colombo to Kandy. He said that for the first 12 miles out from the Victoria Bridge to Ragama the metalling of the road was disgraceful, in fact the worst piece of road he had seen in Ceylon.

The CHAIRMAN said that though this was perhaps out of the province of the meeting there were some estates in the District which carted their produce direct to Colombo and which were affected by the state of this part of the road. It was agreed that the Hon. Secretary write to the D.P.W., and also bring the matter to the notice of the Automobile Club.

The estimates for expenditure and upkeep of minor roads were then gone into by Mr. Barrs, and the opinion of those interested asked. A letter from Mr. Pattisson, who was unable to be present, was read in this connection.

TRANSPORT.

A letter from the District Engineer was read by the Hon. Secretary in reply to one asking for the erection of storage sheds at the terminus of the ropeway over the Maha Oya. In this letter the District Engineer stated that

he could not undertake responsibility for storage of goods on either side of the river.

The CHAIRMAN, commenting on this, said that the real difficulty was the shortage of carts, and absence of a gala on the Polgahawela side of the river. Not only were rates excessive but carts had to return to Polgahawela for the night, and consequently goods had to be dumped down in the open until such time as they could be transported across the ropeway.

It was suggested that the Hon. Secretary write to the Assistant Government Agent asking that the Government be approached on the subject of erecting storage sheds, but that the estates would hold themselves responsible for loss or damage to goods stored. If Government could not see its way to erect sheds that it be asked to obtain the rent of land at a reasonable figure for private individuals to do so, as at present the rates asked were out of the question.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

A letter from the Postmaster-General was read sanctioning a Post Office at Ambepussa as soon as a suitable building at a reasonable rent could be secured.

Mr. SINCLAIR asked where the site was to be and suggested that it should be Ambepussa, Proper, on the Colombo-Kandy road and not at the station.

The CHAIRMAN said he would ask the Hon. Secretary to write to the P.M.G. thanking him for so speedily meeting the wishes of the District and to ask what rent the authorities would be willing to pay and what size house would be required.

LOCAL LABOUR FEDERATION.

A letter from Mr. G. R. Massy was read on this subject, but discussion held over until a subsequent meeting when it was hoped Mr. Massy would be himself present. A resolution to the above effect proposed by Mr. BARRS and seconded by Mr. SINCLAIR was put to the meeting and carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

R. R. OAKLEY.

Hon. Secretary.

SABARAGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The ninth annual general meeting of the above P.A. was held at the Wace Memorial Hall, Ratnapura, on January 31st, having been preceded by a Committee meeting.

Among those present were Messrs. E. R. E. Geddes (Chairman), D. Robertson, P. Bridge, J. Hawke, John Patterson, M. S. Davidson, A. Ingram, F. J. Poynts Roberts, G. M. Crabbe, G. H. Coldwell, P. D. G. Clarke, C. Schofield, C. E. Williams, E. Reilly, R. S. Dalgetty, J. London, A. Nicol, F. R. Allyn Brown, L. E. Russell, Geo. Hawkins, R. de V. Godfray, J. Sharrocks, L. White, J. Stogdon, Geo. Brown, E. C. Villiers, Rushton, J. Robertson, S. P. Eaton, C. W. Baker, and J. D. Hoare (Hon. Secretary.)

Read a telegram from Mr. W. H. Winthrop regretting his inability to attend. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed the Hon. Secretary read the annual report, which, together with the accounts, was unanimously adopted.

THE NINTH ANNUAL REPORT.

PRELIMINARY.—Your Committee have much pleasure in presenting this their Ninth Annual Report, and feel that the strong position held by tea throughout the year is a matter for congratulation, and, although there has been a serious fall in the price of rubber, it need not be viewed with apprehension, as it has resulted in a curtailment of further large opening programmes, and may be looked upon as a blessing in disguise, as careful economy has to be exercised in all departments which, during the boom period had been allowed to become somewhat a secondary consideration.

OBITUARY.—It is with great regret your Committee have to record the deaths of Messrs. Inray, Young, Lesson, Mackie, and Baines.

MEETINGS.—There have been four general meetings, preceded by five Committee meetings, all of which were well attended.

CROP.—Acreage under tea is 21,719 against 16,334 in 1912; crop from tea is 9,298,200 lbs. against 6,758,735 lbs. in 1912; acreage under rubber is 23,572 against 21,430 in 1912; crop under rubber is 3,469,013 lbs. against 785,623 lbs. in 1912.

FINANCE.—The financial position continues sound, the balance at credit being Rs. 365.80 as against Rs. 62.61 at debit the previous season.

RAILWAYS (RATNAPURA-KAHAWATTE EXTENSION.)—Satisfactory progress has been made with this extension during the year under review, and, as foreshadowed in the last annual report that your Committee presented to you, Government have sanctioned the line being extended to Kahawatte. Your Committee trust that their efforts will meet with the same measure of success as regards the proposal to construct a branch line to Opanaika to serve the Balangoda estates as well as extending the existing line as far as Madampe to facilitate transport of produce from Rakwana, and in the near future a probable extension via Godakawella to Hambantota.

PESTS.—Your Committee are pleased to be able to report that plant pests and rubber canker have been kept well in hand, and no serious outbreak calling for special preventative measures has been brought to their notice. Your thanks are due to the Peradeniya officials for the prompt attention and advice given to your members with regard to any instances in which their expert advice was asked for.

ROADS.—The roads are not generally in as good repair as could be desired, but there are valid reasons why this should be so. There was a drought from the end of January to October, the S.W. Monsoon being a dismal failure as far as rain was concerned. Then in October occurred the worst flood known for many years. The roads were under water for a long time and suffered considerable damage in consequence. The P. W. D. are therefore to be congratulated on doing as well as they have done under very trying circumstances. One particular section of the road from Ratnapura to Pelmadulla is in very bad order, and we trust, now that weather conditions have improved, that this will be remedied without delay. Your Committee regrets that their representations to Government with regard to the necessity of constructing the road to Kukul Korale have not met with the success that they desired, and renewed effort must be made during the current year to obtain the sanction for this much-needed want.

EXCISE.—Your Committee are of the opinion that the Excise Ordinance may have had the desired effect of checking the illicit sale of arrack and toddy as far as the Singhalese villager is con-

cerned, but with regard to our Tamil labour, extra facilities have been afforded to them to obtain increased supplies of drink, which, under the old regime, they were unable to procure owing to the distance they had to travel to obtain same. From this cause drunkenness and general insubordination have been greatly on the increase, and it is to be hoped that "The powers that be" will give sympathetic consideration, in the future, when representations are made to them, that toddy taverns are not a necessity on an estate boundary. In several instances, consideration has been paid to representations made by your members, and the taverns have been moved further away, and for these acts of grace, your Committee think your thanks are due to the officials concerned.

MEDICAL WANTS.—It is most unsatisfactory to note that nothing has been done with regard to progress being made with the Pelmadulla District Hospital at Kahawatte. This matter was first brought before the Association on November 15th, 1909, and your Committee consider that if the hospital was a necessity then, it is still more so now, in view of the great increase of the estate population since that date. Further large areas are being opened and about to be opened in the vicinity; this is another factor in support of your contention that this is an urgent want. Your Committee have pleasure in informing you that Government have sanctioned the erection of a new hospital on the site of the old jail buildings in Ratnapura to replace the present building which is totally inadequate for the needs of the district. The hospital reports are annexed hereto.

WEATHER.—The conditions prevailing during the year were not generally favourable for estate products. The S.W. monsoon was practically a failure, but in the month of October the district was subjected to the worst flood ever experienced. Several lives were lost including Mr. Young, Manager of Mahawale, and Mr. Carthigasan, District Engineer, who had done noble service in saving lives himself. Your Committee think a special vote of thanks is due to the Government Agent, Provincial Engineer, and Office Assistant, Messrs. Thaine, Waddell, and Pinder, for the prompt and energetic measures they took to relieve distress and protect public property.

RINDERPEST.—Your Committee are pleased to be able to report that the district appears to have been free from rinderpest during the year, but regret to report that a disease among horses broke out up the Ratnapura-Rakwana road causing much inconvenience owing to dislocation of the mail services, but we think that more effective measures for informing owners of horses should be taken in the event of future outbreaks occurring.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—Your Committee would urge upon all members of the Association the desirability of supporting this fund, which has not received from the Association during the year the support that such a worthy object deserves.

LABOUR.—Your Committee regret to notice that recruiting from the Coast during the year has not been as successful as expected and consider that good weather for crops in South India may be accountable for this to some extent. At the same time they are glad to note that their suggestion for a coolie depot in Colombo has been adopted, and that the question of direct European recruiting at the Coast is now receiving serious consideration, which also was the subject of a resolution passed by this Association. It is satisfactory to note that about 80 per cent. of the estates of the Association are on the roll of the Proprietors' Labour Federation. This fact and combined with a little loyalty to one's neighbours should result in keeping the labour supply sufficient and prevent the evil of roving gangs whose sole reason for moving is to obtain increased advances.

SINGHALESE LABOUR,

your Committee regret to report that the amount of imported Sinhalese labour from Matara and other districts has not been forthcoming during the past year as in previous years and has caused great inconvenience to these estates that have relied on these for their completion of their programme of works.

JUDICIAL.—This Association has found it its duty to impress upon Government the necessity for an Itinerating Magistrate for the districts of Rakwana, Balangoda and Pelmadulla, and hopes that the near future will see this an accomplished fact, and would like to place upon record this their emphatic opinion that, as matters stand at present, the work cannot be adequately performed by one man from Ratnapura and view with apprehension the possibility of cases being unduly delayed and thereby causing serious inconvenience to the general public as well as to the Planting Community of the three districts referred to.

STRAY CATTLE.—Your Committee note with pleasure that there is a slight improvement under this head, but trust that those responsible for checking this nuisance will not relax their efforts to maintain affairs in a satisfactory condition.

POSTAL SERVICES.—The year under review has been a bad one. The floods in October utterly dislocated the postal and other services. Shortly afterwards the coach horses between Ratnapura and Rakwana all died, and for some weeks all mails had to be conveyed to the latter district in bullock coaches, a very cumbersome means of transport which led to very great inconvenience and delay. Fortunately Messrs. Pate & Son came to the rescue with a motor coach which they are willing to maintain permanently if Government makes this course possible, by raising the subsidy for carrying mails.

TELEPHONES.—Sometime ago a scheme was mooted for installing Telephones throughout the various planting districts in the Province. Separate Committees were elected for each district to settle upon sites for the exchanges and draw up maps showing distances, &c. These Committees have completed, or are completing, their work, and when all the maps are finished it will be possible to see whether or not we shall be able to proceed with the scheme.

REPORT ON THE RATNAPURA HOSPITAL FOR 1913.

I visited the Ratnapura hospital with Mr. H. F. Pearson during 1913. The D.M.O. and his staff were present. We found 103 patients under treatment at the time of our visit, of whom 72 were males and 31 females. There was no overcrowding noticeable.

The latrines, bathrooms and hospital grounds were very clean and in good order.

The patients appeared to be comfortable and no complaints were made. The food appeared to be of good quality.

The number of patients treated during 1913 was 2,798, as compared with 2,424 during the previous year. The number of deaths was 581, or 20 per cent. in 1913 against 544, or 22½ per cent. in the previous year.

General Remarks.—The hospital is clean and well kept and the surrounding premises likewise. Improved latrines and bathrooms have been constructed, and there is almost a complete absence of flies.

There is a certain amount of overcrowding during the unhealthy months, but Government has sanctioned the erection of a new hospital on the site of the old jail buildings at a cost of Rs. 78,900, and the work has been commenced. This hospital, I understand, will be ample for all future requirements of the district.

Dr. Lloyd Pereira and his staff had a very strenuous time during the recent floods. There was 5 feet of water in the male hospital, and 11 feet in the dispensary, and they deserve the thanks of the district for their promptness and energy in rescuing the patients under most trying circumstances.

J. HAWKE.

REPORT ON THE BALANGODA HOSPITAL FOR 1913.

I visited the Balangoda Hospital on September 25th and December 19th, on neither occasions was the D.M.O. present as he had been called out to cases in the neighbourhood. The other

officers, however, were on duty and I found everything in a satisfactory condition and received no complaints from any of the patients.

One or two remarks on the staff I have referred to under the heading of recommendations and general.

The total number of wards is seven and there is accommodation for 104 patients, 62 males and 42 females, this is sufficient except at certain short seasons of the year when overcrowding more or less is unavoidable.

The staff consists of the D.M.O., visiting and resident apothecary, matron and nurse, and in view of frequent and distant calls made on the D.M.O. and visiting apothecary this can hardly be said to be sufficient and a qualified assistant should be applied for.

The chief diseases treated during the year were:—(1) Ankylostomiasis and (2) Malarial fever, while the number of patients was:—

Civil in-door treatment	72	against	1912	69
Estate	541	„	„	498 in 1912
Civil out-door	1913	5,989	„	„ 6,610 in 1912
Estate	1913	566	„	„ 895 in 1912

Deaths

Civil in-door treatment	72	against	1912	69
Estate	91		1912	86

Giving a percentage of Civil 7.46 per cent. as against in 1912 6.54 per cent., estate 16.82 per cent., as against in 1912 17.80 per cent.

The most urgent pressing need is a proper water supply, the present one constantly gives trouble, apparently owing to silting up of the intake which means the coolies and orderlies whose time should be spent otherwise have to carry all water required in buckets from the reservoir to different parts of the building.

RECOMMENDATIONS.—Another need is the ceiling of the D.M.O.'s house and the nurses' quarters should be properly ceiled, and also the office and dispensary, for there is apparently no limit to the variations and number of foreign bodies that fall from the tiles as at present exposed.

A carriage house should also be put up at once as the D.M.O.'s trap has to be housed at present in the apothecary's house verandah which is both unsightly and undesirable. Also a shed for the visiting apothecary's hackery should be put up. The latter, however, I understand, has been sanctioned.

GENERAL.—I heard on several occasions that considerable trouble was caused by the absence through illness or other reasons of the proper latrine coolies and that the work developed either on convalescent patients when available or on the hospital orderlies causing no little discontent, though it is to their credit that the work was done. But I understand there were times when much was left to be desired.

Once again I would like to urge the need of a qualified assistant in support of which I mention the case of Massenne estate which was left three days without any reply to an urgent call.

The grounds and buildings at the time of my visits were tidy and in excellent order.

I am indebted to the D.M.O. and the staff in general for information and assistance given at the time of my visits.

E. CHAS. VILLIERS,
Hospital Visitor,
Sabaragamuwa P.A.

REPORT ON THE RAKWANA HOSPITAL FOR 1913.

ACCOMMODATION appears to be on the whole sufficient, though there are times when the hospital is overcrowded. It was impossible to get figures as to the total number of cases treated, percentages of deaths, etc., but the latter appears to be fairly low. There have been several cases of Ankylostomiasis treated during the year.

MEDICINES AND FOOD are sufficient for all needs and of good quality. There were no complaints from the patients.

Buildings are in good order and kept thoroughly clean. Some wards have been fitted with fly-proof windows and doors, and it would be a good thing to treat the remaining wards and the kitchen in a similar manner.

Grounds are well kept. The drinking water is obtained from well in the grounds, which is so deep that it cannot be cleaned it. A good water service could easily be laid on from the stream over Hetherleigh. It would only mean laying down about a mile small piping and would be infinitely preferable to the present stem.

GENERAL.—The general condition of the hospital is satisfactory and reflects credit on the D.M.O., Dr. W. E. de Silva.

E. R. E. GEDDES,
and
W. H. WINTHROP,
Hospital Visitors.

The meeting then proceeded to deal with correspondence.

SEQUEL TO COURT CASES.

A letter was read from the Superintendent of Niviti-alla, dated January 24th, 1914, in connection with certain recent cases heard at Ratnapura Courts. At this point the meeting resolved itself into Committee. On resuming the meeting it was unanimously decided that all particulars in connection with previous discussion should be forwarded at once to Kandy for the Parent Association's advice.

The following letter was then read:—

Lanark estate, Rakwana,
23rd January, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association, Sabaragamuwa, Rakwana.

DEAR SIR,

I understand that a general meeting of the above is to be held at Ratnapura on 31st instant.

I have lately had occasion to prosecute a cooly woman for luring. She was convicted and sentenced to one month's rigorous imprisonment. After sentence had been passed and the Court adjourned for breakfast the Court Interpreter Mudaliyar admitted the prisoner into his own quarters next the Court House where he had been drawn out by which the woman gave me one month's notice, which was sent me by registered post. May I request that you will be good enough to put before the meeting the question as to whether the Court Interpreter Mudaliyar is justified and authorised to draw out notices and provide registered envelopes for convicted coolies.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN WM. ROBERTSON.

Mr. ROBERTSON spoke to the effect that he had had great difficulty in catching the bolter and had gone to considerable expense in the matter. Mr. Robertson also filed copy of the cooly woman's affidavit as follows:—

TO THE POLICE MAGISTRATE,

Ratnapura.

I Palaniaie, presently of Ratnapura not being a Christian do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm as follows:—

1. I am a cooly employed on Lanark estate in Rakwana.
2. I ran away about four or five months ago from the above state and was working as a cooly at Kelaniya Manure Works for about a month, when the Superintendent came and arrested me on warrant and handed me in charge of the police.

3. I was not brought for the due date to Rakwana owing to my being ill in jail hospital, and on the 19th December, 1913, I was brought before the Court for trial.

4. The Interpreter Mudaliyar, after I was convicted for a month's imprisonment, took me from the dock to his private room when the Court was adjourned for breakfast and asked me to sign a notice stating that when it is sent to the Superintendent "You will be a free woman and can go anywhere you please." On that statement he asked me to hold the pen and put a cross mark on the paper and on Saturday too he insisted on the notice being issued and sent to the Superintendent and he spent money out of his hand for registering the letter enclosing the notice.

5. I went to jail and after serving the period of one month I was brought to Ratnapura Court on Saturday, the 17th instant, when the said Mudaliyar asked me not to go to the estate and had peons to drive away the estate cooly who came to take me back.

The foregoing affidavit having been read over and explained to the affirmant in Tamil, her own language, she seemed to understand the contents thereof set her mark hereto. Mark of Palaniaie, affirmed to this 19th day of January, 1914, before me.

J. VANDENBER,

Police Magistrate.

It was proposed by Mr. POYNTEZ ROBERTS that the District Judge be referred to in the matter and asked if he approves of this interference with prisoners by his officers or if it were done with his connivance and sanction.—Seconded by Mr. HOARE and carried unanimously.

The Hon. Secretary then read a letter from Mr. C. P. Jayawardene of Wellampitiya concerning the number of coolies who were thought to be bolters from this district. Resolved that the writer be thanked.

The Hon. Secretary also read a letter from the Secretary of the P.A. of Ceylon enclosing notices re horse diseases: These were laid upon the table as were also (1) a letter from the Government Agent asking for returns for his Blue Book for 1913, (2) Circuit Court programme for the half-year ending June, 1914, (3) a letter from the Secretary of the P.A. drawing attention to the general meeting and pointing out that members' subscriptions were due, (4) A circular re the International Rubber and Allied Industries English Exhibition to be held in London in June, 1914.

The Hon. Secretary then read letters of application to join this Association from the following estates:—Kiriella, Atlanta, Welandura, and Gorakgastenne. These were unanimously accepted.

Read a letter from the Government Agent as follows:—

TODDY TAVERNS.

Ratnapura Kachcheri,
26th January, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to request you to inform me as early as possible whether your Association has any recommendations to make regarding the closing of any existing taverns or the establishment of new taverns.

I am &c.,

K. N. THAINE,
Government Agent.

The question being put to the meeting there was no response to the same.

J P., U.P.M.

Letters were also read from the Government Agent as follows:—

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AND UNOFFICIAL POLICE MAGISTRATE,
Ratnapura Kachcheri,
25th November, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa P.A., Ratnapura.

SIR,

With reference to your letter dated the 7th September last, recommending that Mr. P. D. G. Clarke be appointed J.P., U.P.M., for the Weyganga district, I have the honour to state that the number of inquests held within the jurisdiction by the present Inquirer into Sudden Deaths does not appear to Government to justify the appointment of a J.P., U.P.M. for this district.

I am &c.,
R. N. THAINE,
Government Agent.

Ratnapura Kachcheri,
27th January, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa P.A., Ratnapura.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 25th instant *re* the recommendation of Mr. Brough as J.P., U.P.M., I have the honour to refer you to my letter No. 1689 of 9th June, 1913.

2. As there are two Inquirers into Sudden Deaths within two and three miles of Galatura estate, it is unlikely that Government will sanction the appointment unless there are other very strong reasons to justify it.

3. If your Association is in a position to bring forward reasons to justify the appointment, I will give the matter my support.

I am &c.,
R. N. THAINE,
Government Agent.

Also read a letter from Mr. Brough requesting that ~~his~~ name might be withdrawn as owing to pressure of business he would not be able to undertake the duties of J.P., U.P.M.

Also a letter from the Government Agent *re* horse sickness was read as follows:

Ratnapura Kachcheri,
January 30th, 1914.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of 25th instant I have the honour to inform you that the request of the Association will be complied with in future.

I am &c.,
R. N. THAINE,
Government Agent.

The request was contained in a Resolution framed at a previous meeting:—"That this Association thank the Government Agent for his letter, but would point out that in their opinion future outbreaks of disease among horses or cattle should be advertised in the papers."

TELEPHONES.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Messrs. C. A. Hutson & Co., suggesting that the exchange at Ragalla and Udapussellawa should be inspected, and offering to furnish any information that might be required.

On the subject of Telephones, the Chairman thought that, though perhaps the time was not quite ripe for installing a system throughout the district, it was undoubtedly necessary to push on and have everything prepared and ready such as maps, plans, &c. This met with the approval of the meeting.

MOTOR MAIL SERVICE.

A resolution was put by the Chairman on behalf of Mr. Winthrop, who was unable to be present to bring forward his own resolution "That Government be asked to raise the subsidy paid to the mail contractors between Ratnapura and Rakwana to enable them to keep up an efficient and permanent motor service."

This was seconded by Mr. GEORGE BROWN and carried unanimously.

The proposal of the Kotmale Planters' Association on the subject of warehouse rent in times of flood and Government postal pillar boxes at railway stations was then placed before the meeting. It was resolved to support this.

It was then proposed by the CHAIRMAN that the rules of the Sabaragamuwa P.A. be circulated among members, and that a general meeting be called at a future date to discuss the same.

This was seconded by Mr. BROWN and unanimously agreed to.

Chairman's Review.

The CHAIRMAN gave a resume of the work done in the past year pointing out the need to keep pressing for the urgent wants of the district, and not to let the ground slip under their feet; that the Opanaika railway extension must be obtained, and also the Kukul Korale Road, the need of which was so fully realised by Sir Henry McCallum, at that time Governor of the Island. It was essential if they were to obtain these things not to waste time but to lay the matters before the present Governor. Concerning telephones he had already expressed his opinions on the subject. As regard roads he had to confess they had not been of the best, but it was in no way through any fault of the P. W. D. rather did they deserve the thanks of the Association for having done as they could in the face of difficulties such as were experienced in the great floods of October. With reference to Hospitals it was satisfactory to know that a sum had been voted for the building of a hospital at Ratnapura which was badly needed but as far as the Pelmadulla Hospital, which was a dire necessity, went, nothing had been done. Sanction for this must be obtained at once. He further pointed out the need for an Itinerating Police Magistrate for Pelmadulla, Balangoda and Rakwana, in addition to the resident D. and P.M. of Ratnapura. He expressed his gratitude to the members of the meeting for the loyal support they had given him and spoke in the highest terms of his Honorary Secretary, Mr. J. D. Hoare, whose help, he said, had been the greatest.

Mr. Geddes then vacated the chair amid very hearty applause.

Mr. P. D. G. CLARKE then took the chair *pro tem.* He proposed a vote of very hearty thanks to the retiring Chairman.

man, who was a strong man, in fact a big man in every sense of the word. (Laughter.) He, the late Chairman, had expressed himself as having had lots of worry in the past year, but it was very satisfactory to note that it had not left much impression. (Laughter.) Seriously speaking, it was a year in which many important matters had required handling, and they had been handled well. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. GEDDES returned thanks in suitable terms.

Mr. CRABBE then proposed that Mr. George Brown be elected Chairman for 1914. He was sure, he said, that it would be a very popular election for a better man could not elsewhere be found.

Mr. ROBERTS said it gave him great pleasure to second this, and on being put to the meeting, the proposal was carried unanimously with loud applause.

Mr. BROWN, in a few well-chosen words, returned thanks and said he hoped to carry on the onerous duties in a manner worthy of the traditions of his predecessors. (Hear, hear.) He then proposed, and Mr. CLARKE seconded, that Mr. E. C. Villiers be elected Honorary Secretary.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

The meeting then proceeded to elect the following office-bearers for the year:—

RAKwana COMMITTEE.—Messrs. F. J. Poyntz Roberts, R. E. Geddes and W. H. Winthrop.

RATNAPURA COMMITTEE.—Messrs. J. Hawke, R. Brough, P. D. G. Clarke, J. Paterson, A. J. Ingram, C. A. Grant, J. Bridge, J. D. Hoare, C. W. Baker, Geo. Fellowes, D. Robertson and Maberly Byrde.

BALANGODA COMMITTEE.—Messrs. A. D. Sly, L. W. Baker, and Keith E. Maitland, Ex-officio Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

PLANT PEST BOARD.—Messrs. J. Paterson and J. Bridge.

RATNAPURA HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. J. Hawke and H. F. Pearson.

RAKwana HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. C. D. Green and W. H. Winthrop.

BALANGODA HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. E. C. Villiers and A. C. Tuckness.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. F. J. Poyntz Roberts, R. E. Geddes, P. D. G. Clarke, A. D. Sly. Ex-Officio.—Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—Ex-Officio.—Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.—Messrs. J. Hawke and George Brown.

PROVINCIAL ROAD COMMITTEE.—Messrs. R. Brough and George Brown.

The vacating Hon. SECRETARY, speaking on the subject of accounts, pointed out the very satisfactory state of affairs. Whereas in January, 1913, there was a debt of Rs. 62.61 there was now a surplus balance of Rs. 365.80, and when one or two outstanding accounts readily realisable had come in the total would be brought up to Rs. 440.88. On the strength of this he proposed that a typewriter be purchased to be the

property of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association. This was agreed to.

A vote of thanks was then proposed by Mr. GEDDES and seconded by Mr. CRABBE on behalf of Mr. J. Hawke who had audited the accounts. This, with a vote of thanks to the chair, terminated the proceedings.

E. C. VILLIERS,
Hon. Secretary.

KURUNEGALA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Kurunegala Planters' Association was held on Saturday, 31st January, at the Kurunegala Resthouse. Mr. A. S. Long Price, the Chairman, presided, and the others present were:—Messrs. Hulme King, J. Stainton, A. Warburton Gray, A. A. Barnes, H. J. MacMullin, A. Anthony Brown, W. Beatti, Albert Goonewardene, V. C. Brind, A. de Silva, R. Goonesekere, E. G. Goonewardene, A. M. Carver (Secretary), and two visitors.

After the usual preliminaries the SECRETARY read the annual report.

Mr. McMULLIN: May I ask, Sir, how many meetings of the Association have been held during the last year.

The CHAIRMAN: None, gentlemen, as there was not sufficiently important business to transact.

Mr. McMULLIN: May I then propose that meetings be held—

The CHAIRMAN: Have you given notice of that resolution.

Mr. McMULLIN: No.

The CHAIRMAN: Then you are out of order.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, said that before any work was begun it was their duty to pass a sincere vote of condolence on the death of their much respected friend the late Mr. Edmund Scott.

The resolution was passed, all standing.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

Continuing the Chairman said that they had all heard the annual report read and before it was adopted it was usual for their Chairman to make a few remarks. There had been some criticism by members that there had been no general meetings of their Association, but that was due to the absence of any business of such importance as to make a general meeting necessary. Coming to the report he found the position of the Association very satisfactory, and in the matter of finances there was a considerable balance in hand. The Committee was obliged to the members for the prompt manner in which they had paid up the subscriptions, thus lessening to a great extent the difficulties of the Secretary. The year under review had been an extremely good one for coconuts, and though rubber suffered a little by the low prices there was no great hardship experienced. As regards the former they had achieved the record price of Rs. 104 per candy, which was

quite the highest that copra had fetched. Moreover, the present prosperous position of that industry had not been sudden, but steady and gradual, and that had been another satisfactory feature. The prices had now gone up from Rs. 40 to Rs. 104. It was interesting to recall what a former Chairman of their Association had said in 1905. He said that the coconut industry had a great future in the district with satisfactory prices at Rs. 45 to Rs. 50 per candy. Another interesting feature of the year with regard to coconuts was that throughout the season very favourable crops had been secured, and in some cases the estimates had been easily exceeded. So far as the human eye could see he could foresee every prospect of a continuity of the prosperity of that industry. One sign of that was the large number of forward contracts already made for the current year at Rs. 95 per candy. He was sure that there would be no drop in the prices in the near future. As regards rubber they could see from the report that their estates would not suffer very much. The roads in the district had been a subject for annual discussion at their meetings, and in the present instance it was a very pleasant thing to be able to express their appreciation of the very satisfactory state of roads and of the excellent work done by the Provincial Engineer and his assistant, the District Engineer, in carrying out the maintenance of the roads under very trying circumstances in the shape of abnormal floods. The new road which they were interested in from Mawlapitiya to Rambodagala is in course of construction, and he thought that fairly good progress had been made in the work. At the same time he did not think that the P.W.D. officers realised the inconvenience and trouble caused by tearing up the roads and letting them remain in that condition for 3 or 4 months. With regard to the construction of bridges over that road he regretted to say that there was some unfortunate delay. For that the former officers who had the work in hand were to be blamed and not the present officers, as the original estimate did not anticipate several items of expenditure which had been found essential now. As regards Tuntotte bridge, which was washed away 2½ years ago, he said that it took six months for the Government to decide what they were going to do. (Laughter.) Ever since that as far as he could remember the work had been going on. The construction of the new bridge presented no very great engineering difficulty as far as he could see, but it was extraordinary that a road leading from one Province to another should be closed for such a long time. If the P.W.D. were incapable or incompetent to do the work in a reasonable time, it was far more advisable to give the work over to some private firm in Colombo or elsewhere, who would have done it in half the time. It was stated that the bridge would be ready in three months more, but it was not, and the matter would have to receive the attention of their Association. The thanks of the Association were due to Mr. A. A. Brown for the excellent work he had done in the S.R.C. A large number of convictions had been obtained, but it was unfortunately impossible to say that there had been any decrease noticeable in

that form of crime. He (the Chairman) was of opinion that it was greatly due to the absolutely inadequate fines imposed on the culprits. In 1911-12 the average of fines imposed was Rs. 12.26, but in 1913 the average was Rs. 6.62. The fines ranged about Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 4 and as long as such small fines were imposed they could not hope for an appreciable reduction in the cruelty to animals. The health of the district had been very bad throughout the year. Kurunegala usually enjoyed a reputation of being one of the most unhealthy districts in the island and it was certainly so this year. He was sure that Kurunegala was the worst town in the island in point of sanitation. In that respect the villagers suffered as much as others. Government, it was true, had sent relief to some of those poor people. In Kurunegala itself, the town was in a most deplorable condition. He was informed by a well-known medical man that in almost every house two or three people were sick. The Anti-Malaria Campaign which was started with such a flourish of trumpets by several eminent doctors had promised to do an immense amount of good to the country. But the doctor who, with a large staff of coolies, was doing the work was suddenly moved to another district and the whole scheme had collapsed. Malaria flourished to a remarkable degree. Owing to the insanitary condition of the town the fever had been increasing to an alarming extent during the last few months. He did not hesitate even for a moment in describing the town of Kurunegala as one of the filthiest in the whole island. There is supposed to be a Local Board in the town, but what that Board was doing or how the money was spent was a mystery to every one. The methods of night soil conveyance, as the report had stated, was too disgusting for words. This business was attended to by coolies at all hours of the day, and though it was an unsavoury subject for him to dwell on yet they had to face the fact that it was a most nauseating way of doing the work. How such primitive methods could be in vogue with the presence of a Local Board was a matter beyond his comprehension, and the Local Board collectively and individually was to a great extent responsible for the present state of affairs. He made that remark with considerable caution. He spoke so strongly more on behalf of the poor people of the town than the rich and well-to-do. Some of the former paid very heavy taxes to the Local Board, but practically got nothing in return. Coming to the postal arrangements he said that there had been frequent complaints with regard to the irregularity of deliveries. On several occasions no mails arrived at all and investigations showed that they had gone to Kandy for a change of climate. (Laughter.) Sometimes it so happened that half the night mails from Colombo came by one train, and the other half by another. That was also a matter which required their attention next year. In conclusion he reminded them that Mr. Carver was only the Acting Secretary. Mr. Trefusis had to go home suddenly and Mr. Carver filled the breach with great credit to himself and satisfaction to the Association. He had much pleasure in proposing that the report be adopted.

Mr. WARBURTON GRAY seconded.

LOCAL BOARD MEMBERS' DEFENCE.

Mr. GOONEWARDENE said that he did not originally intend to speak at that stage of the proceedings, but he was compelled to do so owing to certain remarks made by the chairman. That was in reference to the Local Board, of which he happened to be a member. There was no doubt a great deal of truth in what the Chairman had said. But it was not quite right in trying to shift the blame individually and collectively on the members of the Local Board. It was the executive department of the Local Board that was responsible for the state of the town. Where were the Government Agent and the Assistant Government Agent that day? They were the people who ought to get the work done. The members of the Local Board met only once a month, so that it was fair to attach any blame to the unofficial members more than half-a-dozen people had approached him a couple of days ago saying that some people had come to the town in the plague-infected area in Colombo and asked him to do if nothing could be done. He found the Chairman of the Local Board away, the Assistant Government Agent away and the Provincial Surgeon away, and his friend and colleague, the Crown Proctor, Mr. Daniel, was away, so that the only thing he had to do was to go up to an officer of the police and get the Inspector of the Local Board to go into the town and clean up three "plague spots" in the town. With regard to the fines imposed by Mr. Dyson in P. C. A. cases it was true that they were small. And it was true that a former Police Magistrate fined the poor people so heavily that some of them had to go to jail, being unable to pay the fines and perhaps came out hardened criminals. He (the speaker) thought that the matter of fines was one which should entirely be at the discretion of the magistrate.

The report was eventually passed.

THE REPORT.

Your Committee have pleasure in presenting the 15th Annual Report of the Kurunegala Planters' Association.

FINANCE.—The accounts which have been kindly audited by Mr. De Collins show a credit balance at end of the current year of Rs. 221.06 in hand.

COCONUTS.—The year under review has been a very favourable one for this product. Heavy crops generally have been secured and record prices have been obtained. The price of copra has been very high throughout the season and at one period ran up to over Rs. 104 per candy which price constitutes a record. The estates throughout the district have generally been maintained in a high state of cultivation and native owned estates are receiving more attention in this direction than was formerly the case. Prospects for 1914 are distinctly promising.

RUBBER.—The year ending 1913 has not been very favourable regarding weather for the collection of this product. Prices have remained low, but still a good margin of profit is maintained as the cost of production has come down very considerably. The estates in the district are looking remarkably well and with fair weather during 1914 good crops should be harvested. There has been little disease during the past season and this is a fairly dry district there is little fear of any serious spread. A little land was opened in rubber and some estates have "thinned out" a good deal and find they are getting in more rubber, in consequence less coolies are employed. Taking it on the whole

even with the present price of rubber, the position is a satisfactory one.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.—The main roads in the province have been maintained in good order throughout the year in spite of considerable difficulties which must have been experienced during flood time. The bridge which was completely washed away over the Deduroya on the Dambulla road in January, 1913, has been replaced by a new one and it opened for traffic within ten months from that date and those responsible for this prompt undertaking deserve the best thanks of your Association. It is to be regretted that similar energy is not displayed in regard to construction of the Tuntotta Bridge. This work has been in hand for some years and it is not even finished yet! The closing of that road is of the greatest inconvenience to the public generally and to estate owners in particular and the absurd delay in completion of this work should be brought to the notice of Government. The new road under the Branch Roads Ordinance from Mallowapitiya to Rambadagalla is now in course of construction but poor progress has so far been made. At the present rate it is not likely to be finished for another two years. Nothing has been done at the side of the big bridge for months.

EXCISE.—So far as your Committee are aware the New Excise Ordinance is working smoothly but it is felt that better and more strict supervision should be exercised over the sale of liquor at the taverns and more prompt inquiry held into complaints, when tendered in this connection.

S. P. C. A.—The "Society" has been working actively in the district throughout the year. There were 88 cases instituted out of which 76 convictions were obtained and seven were warned. The cases were for the following charges:—(Bulls) sore necked 55, emaciated 5, wounded 2, lame 17.—79. Horses—Galled neck 2, permitting use of galled neck 2.—4. The fines imposed amounted to Rs. 550 which was a considerable decrease on the records of 1911 and 1912 when the fines amounted to Rs. 1,237 and Rs. 926 respectively, while the number of convictions was nearly the same. The very lenient fines imposed especially noticeable in December has resulted in their being no reduction in the number of cases. The prosecutions were generally spread over the whole district and the "Peon" has done his work creditably.

HOSPITAL.—At time of visit Dr. Jayatilake was away on a call and I was taken round by Dr. V. Thomas, the D.M.A. The hospital grounds were tidy, the drains all working well, the wards clean and the bath rooms and lavatories well washed out with disinfectants. A good many of the wards were over-crowded including the male, medical, fever, male and female, parangi, dysentery female, surgical and female medical wards. The kitchen was clean and in much better order than on my last visit. The dispensary is, in my opinion, unsafe and may tumble down at any time. A much larger building should be put up next time with quarters for the dispenser attached. The cement in nearly all the verandahs is cracked and this should be attended to at once as they only collect dirt. The Additional D.M.A., is away on relief duty and is nearly always so. A permanent A.D.M.A. should be stationed here. Mother St. Celestine, S.S. Sisters are as usual carrying out their loving duties and great credit is due them.

HEALTH.—Your Committee regret to record the fact that the past season has been the most unhealthy one experienced for many years. In Kurunegala town itself fever has been as prevalent as on the estates. It is very much to be regretted that the Anti-Malarial Campaign there has been practically abandoned, and the doctor who was in charge of the work moved to another station, just when he was in the middle of the undertaking. Unless the work is carried on vigorously and the Local Board pay better attention to the general "sanitation" and want of "cleanliness" in the town, improvement in the general health of the place can hardly be expected. The primitive method of night soil conservancy is too disgusting for words.

POST OFFICE.—Considerable dissatisfaction has been caused by the arrival, and in many instances non-arrival of mails, and

the matter should receive the attention of the Committee in the coming year. Labour has been fairly plentiful throughout the year.

OBITUARY.—Your Committee have to record with the great regret the death of Mr. Edmund Scott one of the oldest and most useful members of this Association.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

The CHAIRMAN then resigned and being proposed to take the chair *pro tem*, had great pleasure in proposing the name of K. Hulme King to be the Chairman of the P.A. Mr. King had wide experience in planting matters, and knew the wants of the district very well and he (the speaker) had no doubt that he would make an ideal Chairman. In electing him they would be putting the right man in the right place. (Applause.)

Mr. King was then unanimously elected Chairman.

Mr. King thanked the meeting for the honour that had been thrust upon him. He was very diffident in accepting the post, as there were many gentlemen at that meeting, who were more suited than he to occupy that seat and who were far better acquainted with the district. They had tried their best not to accept the resignation of Mr. Long Price, but they had failed. Mr. Price had done excellent work for the district, and surmounted difficulties with an enormous amount of trouble to himself and by spending a considerable amount of his valuable time. (Applause.) He had been an extremely popular and clever Chairman, and in taking up the reins from such a past master, he found himself like a man in a jolly boat. (Laughter.) But at the same time he hoped that the members of the Association would give him the same hearty co-operation as they had given to their retiring Chairman. He had much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Long Price. (Loud applause.)

Mr. E. G. GOONEWARDENE in seconding the vote of thanks said that the starting of that Association was mainly due to the efforts of Mr. Long Price. With the exception of one or two periods he had been the Chairman of their Association almost from its inception. In the discharge of his duties Mr. Price had had the best interests of their Association at heart, and he had guided its destinies with great wisdom and much care. They had tried to keep Mr. Price as Chairman for another year until he went away to England, but on personal grounds he had been unable to accede to their request. They would all agree that the Association owed a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Price for the admirable way in which he had conducted its affairs. (Applause.) In conclusion he hoped that, though Mr. Price was not the Chairman, he would give them the benefit of his wide experience. (Applause.)

The vote of thanks was carried unanimously.

THE SECRETARY.

Mr. PRICE, after returning thanks for the very kind words said of him, had very great pleasure in proposing the name of Mr. A. M. Carver to be Secretary.

Mr. BRIND seconded.—Carried.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The following members were appointed to serve on the

Committee:—Messrs. Long Price, W. Gray, E. G. Goonewardene, Fred. Daniel, V. C. Brind and H. J. McMullin.

THE KANDY COMMITTEE.

The following members were appointed to serve on the Kandy Committee:—The Chairman, Mr. Gray, and Mr. M. Carver (Hon. Secretary).

HOSPITAL VISITORS.

Messrs. Long Price and Warburton Gray were appointed hospital visitors.

CORRESPONDENCE.

RAILWAY OVERCROWDING.

The SECRETARY then read the correspondence, among them was the following sent by Mr. A. A. E. of Delwita estate with regard to the overcrowding trains:—

To A. CARVER, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary,
Kurunegala P.A.

DEAR SIR,

I should like to draw the attention of the P.A. to the disarrangement the "Sinhalese Pilgrims" are delayed at Kurunegala Station and the way ordinary passengers are inconvenienced. On morning of Monday, June 16th, there were some ten thousand round the railway station and on the platform. Tickets had issued to some, and that after two days' waiting. They all on the platform at least five hundred, and when the 10 a.m. train came in there was accommodation for none. The railway authorities could have been informed of this by wire easily. The result was that it took nearly a quarter of an hour to get some first passengers out of the train and through the crowd. The delay was enormous; the slightest push would have precipitated a half dozen before the incoming train. Would the P.A. be asking the railway authorities for better supervision of public safety and comfort.

Yours, etc.,
A. ANTHONY BROWN,
Delwita estate,
Kurunegala.

July 31st, 1913.

Letters were also read in connection with the forthcoming Allied Trades Exhibition, and the Ceylon Planters' meeting on February 18th.

THE COAST AGENCY.

The following letter was read:—

January 16th, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Kurunegala P.A.

DEAR SIR,

I am directed to inform you that the question whether persons wishing to become subscribers to the Coast Agency should first be asked to join their District Planters' Association will be brought up at the next meeting of the Planters' Association General Committee. From time to time I have applications from persons claiming to be planters wishing to join the Coast Agency, and in some cases I know nothing about them, not even whether they actually possess any property. If these were to join their District Planters' Association in the first instance there would perhaps be less likelihood of advantage being taken by unsuitable people of the Ceylon Labour Commissioner's organization.

Yours, etc.,
JOHN STILL,
Secretary.

Planters' Association of Ceylon, Kandy.

January 16th, 1914.

Mr. LONG PRICE explained that the object of the Parent Association was to prevent unscrupulous people from taking advantage of the Labour Commission Agency.

Mr. McMULLIN: Are people prevented from using the Agency if they paid their subscription?

The CHAIRMAN: No.

Mr. MACMULLIN: Then why should there be a rule that who want to use the Coast Agency should become members of the P.A.?

Mr. LONG PRICE: As far as we are concerned we are only for our opinion on the matter, in order to make a hard and fast rule.

Mr. MACMULLIN: I do not think we can make any hard fast rule on the matter. It is open to anyone who has the subscription to be allowed to use the Agency as a member of a District Association or not.

Mr. LONG PRICE: As I have already said the main object of the Parent Association is to prevent unscrupulous of the Agency.

Mr. MACMULLIN: The Labour Commissioner's Agency is a private concern of the Ceylon Planters. Then why would Mr. Jayasinghe or Mr. Goonewardene who own property, if they wished to get coolies through the Agency, if they pay the necessary subscription, be asked to join planters' Association.

Mr. BROWN: I think they ought to get at Government.

Mr. MACMULLIN: If they can do that then I will support the motion.

A RESOLUTION.

Mr. LONG PRICE: I beg to propose that this Association adopt the idea that gentlemen in their districts claiming as planters wishing to use the Coast Agency should in the first instance become members of this Association.

Mr. GOONEWARDENE seconded.—Carried.

RESTHOUSE STRONGLY CONDEMNED.

Mr. LONG PRICE then brought forward the question of unsatisfactory condition of resthouses in the district. He said that many complaints have been received in connection with this matter, from people who had occasion to use some of the resthouses in the district. There was no doubt that most of the resthouses were in a very unsatisfactory condition. In some cases the resthouses were dirty, insanitary, ill-equipped and the servants, were of a very inferior class of people. If they had occasion to visit some of those resthouses they would see that the mattresses were filthy, pillows smelling of all kinds of things. He had only to compare some of the resthouses in their district with others to ascertain the truth of the condemnation of the former. For instance the Negombo resthouse was very cleanly kept, well managed and in a very satisfactory condition, but in their province the first one, the new resthouse, was one of the dirtiest pothouses in the island. It was they who had to go to those resthouses on business that realised the unsatisfactory condition.

It was quite true that the Chairman of the Provincial Road Committee could not see things as they were, and was not competent to decide on their condition, because he did not have the opportunity to see things as they were. When

he went the resthouses underwent sudden changes, because his arrival had been notified a month or two previous. Consequently the high officials who visited these resthouses did not see them under the ordinary circumstances which the ordinary traveller had to put up with daily. At a meeting of the District Road Committee held lately strong remarks had been made with regard to the resthouses and he (the speaker) was in a position to say that something would be done soon to put matters into order.

Mr. GOONEWARDENE in supporting Mr. Price said that it was only a few days ago they had a very unpleasant experience at a district resthouse. He (the speaker) Mr. Carver and two other gentlemen were travelling in the district and came to the Hettipola resthouse to have some refreshments. The whole place was kept in a disgraceful condition. Anyhow they wanted something to drink and asked the resthouse-keeper what he had. The answer was that there was nothing. Not a drop of whisky or any other drink, and not even soda. (A voice: Perhaps a Temperance Resthouse. Laughter.) They made a complaint in the visitors' book. No steps whatever had been taken by the Chairman of the Local Board.

TELEPHONE.

Mr. GOONEWARDENE in proposing that the Government be further informed of the interest taken by the people in the extension of the Telephone said that there were a large number of people who had consented to become subscribers from the start. He sent out a circular round the town and it was signed not only by some of the wealthiest merchants, but by planters and Natukotta Chetties. He read the first paragraph of the following letter, in which Government promised to consider the question of the extension if a sufficient number of subscribers was guaranteed:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 13th August, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kurunegala Planters' Association.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 28th May, 1912, I am directed to inform you that the Postmaster-General reports that the establishment of a telephone exchange in the town of Kurunegala, including the connecting of the first ten subscribers, would cost Rs. 10,000, and if that number can be guaranteed, Government will be prepared to consider the question of the establishment of such an exchange. The rates of subscription would be the same as in Colombo, Kandy, and Nuwara Eliya,—vide page 236 of the Ceylon Post Office Guide for 1912.

Government is advised by Mr. Preece that, if trunk line facilities are to be given to Kurunegala, a new line, the cost of which is estimated at Rs. 45,000 should be constructed for the purpose between Colombo and Kurunegala. Mr. Preece does not advise that Kurunegala should be allowed to use the existing trunk line, which will shortly have ample traffic on it. I may point out that no exchange exists at Polgahawela, and no such exchange is likely to be established for some time to come.

Guarantees were not required at Kandy and Nuwara Eliya, as it was believed that the exchanges at those stations would pay their way from the beginning, and this belief has been realised. No exchanges have been established by Government at any other outstation.

In the case of Kurunegala, however, it is not considered that there is likely to be enough trunk line business to make it worth while constructing a trunk line to that station at the present time.

As regards the telegraph line to Dandagamuwa, the annual charges for constructing such a line would amount to Rs. 1,831. The estimated annual revenue is Rs. 108. The loss therefore would be Rs. 1,723, and as half of this should under the rules be guaranteed for five years, the annual guarantee will be Rs. 861.50, or say Rs. 860.

Yours, &c.,

M. M. WEDDERBURN.

KNUCKLES, KELEBOKKA AND PANWILA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the above Association was held in the P.W.D. Bungalow at Madulkelle at 2 p.m., on February 5th, 1914. Those present were:—Messrs. T. Y. Wright (Chairman), H. L. Blacklaw, J. Hemsted, E. C. Scott, C. W. Wood, C. D. Hunt, H. F. Russell, A. D. Morley, G. W. Hunter Blair, S. F. Greig, G. L. H. Doudney, T. Moyes, E. R. Cox, J. G. Napier, C. S. Sealy, R. Hancock, R. C. Nailer, G. G. Mackwood, and H. Hopwood (Hon. Secretary.)

The notice calling the meeting was read and the minutes of the last meeting were duly confirmed.

The annual report as under was then submitted to the meeting.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1913.

There are 28 estates on the register representing 13,698 cultivated areas and four private voters.

During the year five Committee and five general meetings have been held, the average attendance at the latter being 18.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—This fund has not been supported through the Association as well as it might have been through the year. It would be advisable if members all paid through the Association.

FINANCE.—Copies of accounts have been circulated to all members. The balance standing to the credit of the Association being Rs. 987.70, of which Rs. 841.22 stands at the credit of the telephone account, and Rs. 146.48 at the credit of the Association's current account.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.—This is a question that has been before the Association for some years, and your Committee much regret that no satisfactory results can be shown, also that Government do not see their way to help the district in the matter.

ROADS.—This Association made a strong protest about the condition of the roads in the earlier part of the year, and this had some immediate effect, but the roads have again got into very bad order in parts and will require constant attention.

TELEPHONES.—During the year the district telephones installation has been erected and has proved a great boon to the district; efforts should be made to get connected up with the main trunk line. There are at present 18 subscribers.

EXCISE.—Your Committee are glad to see that Government have taken steps to get control of the sale of liquor, and hope that the illicit sales will thereby be decreased, but they would view with alarm the opening of any more taverns in the district.

HOSPITAL VISITOR'S REPORT.

I visited the hospital on the 24th December, 1914, and was shown round by the D. M. O. There were 28 male and 26 female patients in the hospital on this date, all seemed to be well looked after and had no complaints to make. The wards and lavatories were well kept and clean. A dhoby's house seems to be necessary at present there is nowhere for the clothes to be kept. The hospital grounds were in excellent order. It is understood that approximately one half of the cases treated in hospital were estate labourers.—(Signed) A. D. MORLEY, Oonagalla, January 11th, 1914.

VOLUNTEERING.—There are several men residing in the district who do not belong to either corps, and your Committee hope that they may be induced to realise the duty. C. M. R. strength 4, C. P. R. C. strength 11, of which two have been transferred to other districts and four have been on leave for the greater part of the year. Your Committee note with pleasure that this detachment has won two shooting competitions during the year and the C. M. R. Challenge Cup and the Intersectoral prize.

RECRUITING FROM COAST.—Twenty-three estates have sent in returns, two of which show no recruiting; the total number of coolies recruited is 631.

RICE.—The price of rice throughout the year has been very high, and it is to be hoped that the efforts of the Committee of the Parent Association at present going to this question will meet with success.

LABOUR.—Most estates in the district could do with more coolies; advances show no signs of decreasing. The Committee of the Parent Association unanimously decided that they were in favour of the principles of Federation and your Committee is of the opinion that the movement should be supported.

WEATHER throughout the year has been unfavourable for crops, abnormal rains having been experienced in January, October, and December.

TEA.—There are 12,785 acres cultivated in tea of which 12,148 acres are in bearing, and 141 acres were planted in 1909, the remaining 496 acres planted from 1910-1914. The total crop for the year is 5,451,252 lbs. showing an average yield of 445 lbs. per acre, which is a decrease of 18 lbs. per acre on the previous year out of the total of 800,000 lbs. which represents green tea. In addition to the above 321,425 lbs. of tea from outside sources is manufactured. There is a considerable acreage of main tea in the district about which it is impossible to give figures. The estimated crop for 1914 is 5,625,000 lbs. of which 350,000 is green tea.

RUBBER.—There are 495 acres of rubber of which 345 acres are in bearing. In addition to this there is a quantity of rubber planted in tea which has not yet been taken into consideration. The total crop for the year is 66,486 lbs. The estimated crop for 1914 is 8,500 lbs.

CARDAMOMS.—There are 390 acres of cardamoms of which 345 is in bearing. The cardamom crop for the year is 14,226 lbs. showing an average of 41 lbs. per acre. The estimated crop for 1914 is 3,650 lbs.

The CHAIRMAN in moving the adoption of the report said, "I thank the members for sending in the different figures for their estates, only two estates not having sent returns. Attendances at the meeting have been particularly good, averaging 18 per meeting, this compares favourably with some of the larger districts. The financial position seems satisfactory but the subscription will have to be slightly raised, as the Association at present

ent only gets Rs. 2.50 per member and the annual expenditure is now rather more than the income. Regarding transport in the district I regret the Government refusal to help us in the surveying of our proposed Tramway route: without Government help it would appear to be very difficult for private enterprise to carry out this kind of work owing to the difficulties of rights of way, etc.: we might approach some of the engineering firms in the Colony about putting motor lorries on the road, but if lorries are used it will most likely entail a great deal of trouble and extra expenses in the upkeep of the difficult roads we have in the district. I would suggest that we continue our efforts to try and get an installation for liquid fuel and petrol at Mattegama. Everyone I think will acknowledge that the telephones erected during the year have been a great boon to the district, and I think we should agitate to get connected up with the main trunk line. The large increase in telegrams and calls in the Kalutara district telephones speaks for itself, and I see no reason why this district should not show a proportionate increase. Under this head I should like to draw attention to the great amount of work put in by the Hon. Secretary. Reports seem to vary considerably as to whether drinking on estates is on the increase but drinking at the taverns seems to be on the increase, and this naturally leads to disturbances on estates owing to coolies returning drunk. In the hospital visitors' report you will notice that only about half the total number of cases treated are estate labourers. These figures should be particularly noted each year as under the new Medical Wants Ordinance we are called upon to pay a large export duty. Large losses on rice are reported in several districts and doubtless the same conditions obtain in this district. In my opinion the coolies are quite able to afford, with the present wages they are getting, to pay for the total cost of their food. I am quite certain that the amount they spend in the arrack taverns would much more than cover the losses on rice. Kalutara reports a loss on rice in the district of Rs. 172,000, but, in the same report, they show no less a sum than Rs. 530,000 having been spent in the arrack taverns. There is, of course, a large inhalese population in this district and this would doubtless account for a large portion of this sum, but in the purely planting districts of Hatton and Kottagalla a sum of Rs. 280,000 has been spent on arrack. These figures would more than balance a very large loss on rice. I trust that the sub-Committee appointed by the Parent P.A. will succeed in their efforts to reduce the cost of rice. As regards volunteering many of the older members in the district have done their duty and still show a good example to some of the younger men, who I can but urge to join one of the two Corps. Before leaving the chair I should like to thank the Hon. Secretary for the very great help he has given me during the year and I must also thank you all for your support."

The Chairman then vacated the chair and on the proposal of Mr. BLACKLAW, Mr. Hunter Blair was elected to the chair *pro tem*.

On taking the chair Mr. HUNTER-BLAIR said that his first duty was to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman, and referred to the hard work Mr. Wright had put in both in connection with the district Association and the Parent Association. He thought they could not do better than ask Mr. Wright to take the chair for another year.

Mr. BLACKLAW also spoke in support, mentioning that he had the honour of proposing Mr. Wright for the chair last year, and, from what he has seen of Mr. Wright's work, he was quite sure he could not do better than second him again this time. On being put to the meeting Mr. Wright was unanimously elected Chairman.

Mr. WRIGHT, on taking the chair, thanked the meeting for electing him again, remarking that he had had no intention of seeking re-election, but as he found out that the Hon. Secretary did all the work he had no diffidence in accepting the honour.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the re-election of Mr. Hopwood as Secretary, which was carried.

Mr. HOPWOOD thanked the meeting for re-electing him and said that he liked the work and was only too pleased to carry it on.

The following Committee were elected:—

GENERAL COMMITTEE.—Messrs. J. G. Napier, H. L. Blacklaw, J. Greig, E. R. Cox, C. D. Hunt, A. D. Morley, J. P. Hortin, G. W. Hunter-Blair, J. Hemsted, C. W. Wood, Chairman, Hon. Secretary.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. G. W. Hunter-Blair, J. G. Napier, C. D. Hunt, Chairman, Hon. Secretary.

BRNEVOLENT FUND.—J. G. Napier and Chairman.

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE.—H. L. Blacklaw, A. D. Morley, J. Hall Brown, C. D. Hunt, J. G. Napier, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

With regard to mechanical transport Mr. Napier enquired if Government had sent any answer to the Association's letter and the following letter was read:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, December 15th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Knuckles, Kellebokka and Panwila
Planters' Association.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of October 22nd, 1913, on the subject of aerial ropeways, I am directed to inform you that Government that the ropeway could connect cannot spare an officer at present for the purpose indicated by you.

I am Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
M. A. YOUNG,

for Colonial Secretary.

Letters from Messrs. Bullivant & Co. and Mr. R. H. Storey on this matter were also read and it was decided that the Hon. Secretary should write to Mr. Napier and Mr. Storey and convey to them the thanks of the Association for the trouble they had taken.

Mr. NAPIER suggested that the estates concerned should be written to to find out if the necessary money for a survey could be obtained.

Mr. HUNT said that it was no good going any further until they had a definite assurance from Government that the ropeway could connect direct with the goodshed at Wattegama, as without this the whole scheme was useless. It was decided to write to Government about this.

Mr. HUNTER-BLAIR asked for information regarding the working of a lorry on the upper portion of the Madulkelle-Cabragalla road, remarking that the Government road went as far as Kellebokka factory, and yet a recent publication in the *Gazette* concerning Motor Lorries only mentioned their use on the road between Wattegama and Madulkelle.

The CHAIRMAN said that Government would not give their consent to the use of lorries on the grant-in-aid roads without the additional consent of the estates assessed for the upkeep of that road.

It was decided to write to the Chairman of the Provincial Road Committee for information on the subject.

Mr. HUNT suggested that H.E. the Governor should be invited to visit the district. This was unanimously agreed to by the meeting.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

Under this heading the HON. SECRETARY proposed the following resolution, which he introduced with a few remarks:—"That the Postmaster-General be requested to have the Madulkelle Post Office kept open for telegraphic business until 8 p.m. on week days instead of only until 6 p.m., as at present."

Mr. HUNTER-BLAIR in seconding the resolution, said that the Post Office always used to be open till 8 p.m., but this was stopped as there was not sufficient business: now that the telephone had been put in the Post Office there was doubtless a large increase.

Mr. NAPIER also spoke in favour of the resolution.

On being put to the meeting the resolution was carried *nem con.*

Mr. BLACKLAW asked if any reply had been received to their letter in relation to the delivery of mails. The following letter was read:—

General Post Office,
Colombo, December 29th, 1913.

H. HOPWOOD, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary,
K.K. and Panwila P.A.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of December 18th, I have the honour to inform you the Postmasters of Kandy and Wattegama have standing instructions to forward the mails referred to by special runners and I have to request you to furnish me with dates on which they have omitted to do so.

I am Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
W. C. MACREADY,
for Postmaster-General.

The meeting decided to ask the Postmaster to let the Exchange know when the English mails arrived so that members could send their tappal coolies.

KANDY HOSPITAL.

With reference to the Kandy Hospital the Chairman asked the Association's representatives on the Committee whether they had any information to give on this subject.

Mr. HUNT replied stating that they had decided to refer the matter to the Parent Association.

RESIDENT CHAPLAIN.

Mr. HUNTER-BLAIR read extracts from a letter from His Lordship the Bishop and explained that the matter was still under consideration.

TELEPHONES.

The HON. SECRETARY mentioned that he had some insulators in stock and asked members to apply to him if they needed any.

Mr. HUNTER-BLAIR suggested making an annual subscription of Rs. 15 per subscriber for the upkeep of telephones instead of using capital: the previous arrangement was to spend the necessary money out of funds in hand and when more funds were required to make another call on subscribers.

Mr. HUNT also spoke in favour of Mr. Hunter-Blair's suggestion.

This was agreed to by the meeting.

Various correspondence was submitted to the meeting amongst which was a circular containing prescriptions dealing with cattle diseases: it was decided to ask for more copies of this.

The letter from the Parent Association re Coast Agents and District P.A. membership also caused some discussion.

It was eventually decided to support the suggestion contained in the letter.

A letter from the District Road Committee was read and the following grants for 1914 were apportioned:

Tunisgalla-Moragahawella Bridge Road: Tunisgalla Estate, Rs. 75.
Madulkelle-Matale Road: Oonangalla, Rs. 20.
Moragalla-Kellebokka Road: Kandekettia Estate, Rs. 10; Allakolla Estate, Rs. 10; Nilloomally Estate, Rs. 15.
Panwila-Madulkelle Road: Galphele Estate, Rs. 12-50.
Panwila-Madulkelle Road: Hatale Estate, Rs. 25.
Madulkelle Estate, Rs. 12-50.

Wire Bridge over Cottaganga Waragahalande Estate, Rs. 15.

Wire Bridge over Huluganga: Arratenne Estate, Rs. 15.

A vote of thanks to the chair brought the meeting to a close.

H. HOPWOOD,
Honorary Secretary

AMBEGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The thirty-eighth annual general meeting of the Ambegamuwa Planters' Association was held at the Adam's Peak Hotel, on Thursday, February 5th, at 2 p.m., preceded

by a Committee Meeting at 11 a.m. Present:—Messrs. J. L. Wilkins (Chairman), Jasper S. Lovell, W. C. Lloyd, J. G. Spiller, O. Balean, S. P. Blackmore, W. J. Mason, Hugh M. Gordon, Bruce Gibbon, E. G. Bantock, A. R. T. Gibbon, H. S. Stevens, P. R. Shand, C. D. Chilcott, E. H. Hitchcock, H. W. Strangman, R. Bennett, Ian H. M. Clark, C. B. Coleman, F. J. Fernando, J. R. Olney (visitor), and B. B. Benison, Hon Secretary.

After formalities,

The CHAIRMAN said that the meeting was invariably being held five days late so that he wished to know whether the members were in favour of its being held that day or whether it should be postponed for some other day. The members being in favour of its being held, the business of the meeting was proceeded with.

RINDERPEST.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the Government Agent had written to the Association calling their attention to the fact that Rinderpest had broken out in Gampola—two cases in Gampola town and one on Orwell estate, Gampola.

Mr. FERNANDO pointed out the danger of straw carts coming from the infected area. The Chairman was instructed to write to Government *re* this matter.

ALTERATION OF RULES.

The CHAIRMAN: It has been decided to withdraw this resolution as the Committee wished to let the present rules stand.

FINANCES.

The CHAIRMAN said that the finances were in a satisfactory state, the balance in hand being Rs. 215.19. They were indebted to Mr. W. J. Mason, who had kindly audited the accounts.

DONATION TO THE CEYLON NURSING ASSOCIATION.

The CHAIRMAN wished to remind the Association that the necessary permission to make the usual donation to the Ceylon Nursing Association had not been obtained at the last meeting. If they had no objection he would propose that the sum Rs. 50 be voted as a donation for 1912 and a similar sum for 1913.—Carried.

DONATION TO THE S.P.C.A.

Mr. SPILLER said that the S.P.C.A., which was doing good work in the district with a special man in charge, was deserving of their support. It was agreed to pay the sum of Rs. 25 to the S.P.C.A.

CHURCH AND MEDICAL SCHEMES.

The CHAIRMAN stated that a circular had been received from the Dikoya P.A. relating to the church and medical scheme of that district. The church scheme had been allowed to drop for the present, but the other matter, the question of a medical retainer, was a difficult one. Dr. Stedman, the present European doctor, wished to retire, and Dr. Smartt of Dimbula had proposed to buy up the former's practice and to get a really first-class medical man as partner, but he would not be in a position to do so unless

he was promised a satisfactory retaining fee. He had already obtained good support from the Maskeliya, Dimbula and Dikoya Associations. It was decided, the Chairman proceeded, to station a doctor somewhere between Hatton and Norwood, and in these days of motors it was not a difficult thing for him to visit the different places. The proposition was for each estate to subscribe Rs. 20 for a superintendent, and Rs. 10 for an S.D., the private subscription being Rs. 45 for a married man and Rs. 20 for a bachelor. It was, of course, a difficult proposition because there were a certain number of men who had employed Dr. Van Rooyen. They might say they knew and liked Dr. Van Rooyen and ask why should they employ a new man. If they did not support a new doctor they would find themselves in a difficult position if they lost their present excellent D.M.O. Mr. Wilkins invited those who were willing to support the scheme to let him know. He was expecting to attend the Dikoya P.A. meeting, which was being held later in the afternoon, and would let them know definitely in a few days what was exactly being done in connection with the movement.

It was agreed to circularise the estates concerned.

THE KANDY CEMETERY RECLAMATION.

A letter from the Hon. Secretary of the Kandy Cemetery Committee with a reprint of Mr. P. R. Shand's letter with regard to above was read. The former desired Mr. Shand's letter to be brought to the notice of the members of the Association as showing the aims of the K.C.R. Committee and at the same time to give to such members of the Ambegamuwa P.A. as had not yet done so an opportunity of subscribing.

The CHAIRMAN invited Mr. Shand, who was present, to address the meeting on the progress the movement was making.

Mr. SHAND said he had pleasure in informing them that the condition of the cemetery was being considerably improved. He would however be able to report fully about this matter after his visit to Kandy on the 13th. He asked those who were willing to subscribe to kindly send their remittances to the Agent, National Bank, Kandy, instead of to him as this would save endless trouble.

RECEIVING POST OFFICE AT HARDENHUISH.

The following correspondence was read:—

General Post Office,
Colombo, October 21st, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Ambegamuwa Planters' Association,
Abergeldie, Rozelle.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 18th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I have no funds available for opening a Receiving Office at Hardenhuish.

In any case it is not likely to be of much service to the residents of the district as I can make no exception to the rule that Receiving Offices can only deal with ordinary correspondence despatched and received.

Telegrams could not be accepted by the runner, but would have to be sent by messenger to Watawala as usual.

I am, etc.,
W. C. MACREADY,
For Acting Postmaster-General.
G.P.O., Colombo,
October 23rd, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Ambegamuwa Planters' Association,
Abergeldie, Rozelle.

SIR,
In reference to my letter of the 21st instant bearing the above number (i.e., 35709/13,) I have the honour to enquire how far Hardenhuish is from the Rozelle Railway Station, and whether there is any road a runner could take from that station, and what the distance is.

I am, etc.,
W. C. MACREADY,
For Acting Postmaster-General.

On the 25th October, the Hon. Secretary replied to the above letter stating that the distance was from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 miles, chiefly estate roads, but in good order: the reply to which was as follows:—

General Post Office,
Colombo, January 23rd, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Ambegamuwa Planters' Association,
Abergeldie, Rozelle.

SIR,
With reference to your letter of the 20th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I have no funds available for a Receiving Office at Hardenhuish and from the returns taken there does not appear to be a real demand for it.

I am, etc.,
W. C. MACREADY,
For Postmaster-General.

It was decided to point out to the P.M.G. that Watawala Post Office is 3 miles nearer than Rozelle.

The HON. SECRETARY read out a letter from the District Engineer acknowledging the vote of thanks passed at the last meeting.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The CHAIRMAN reminded the members that the subscriptions due to the Association must be paid up without delay as those of them who were in arrears were not allowed to vote.

THE COAST AGENCY.

A letter from the Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon, with reference to the question whether all persons wishing to become subscribers to the Coast Agency should first be asked to join their District P.A., was read.

The CHAIRMAN said that this matter was discussed in Kandy at the General Committee Meeting when he was there. One gratifying feature of it was that native proprietors thought that they would do well by subscribing to the Coast Agency.

It was unanimously agreed to support the Kandy Committee's resolution.

KOTMALE P.A. RESOLUTIONS.

The letter from the Kotmale P.A. enclosing resolutions

re warehouses rent in flood time and postal pillar boxes at all railway stations was read.

The CHAIRMAN said he understood that it was probable that a post box would be attached to each train.

The meeting was in favour of supporting both resolutions.

Read circular letter from the Parent P.A. regarding Advertising for bolters, tickets on the railway, Bangalore Agency, etc. The notices with reference to above appeared in the last number of the "Planting Gazette."

The HON. SECRETARY then read the annual report for 1913.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee have pleasure in presenting their 38th report for 1913:—

OBITUARY.—During the year the Planters' Association sustained a severe loss by the death of Mr. John Ferguson, C.M.G., and the Association desires to place on record the great service he rendered to the Community.

In the death of Mr. H. L. Forbes this Association has lost one of its original and much respected members.

REGISTER OF MEMBERS.—The number on the roll is 41 estates and one private voter.

FINANCE.—The accounts have been duly audited and the balance Rs. 215.19 is satisfactory.

MEETINGS.—Two general and two Committee Meetings were held and the attendance was good.

WEATHER.—The year was notable for its 3 floods, but compared with other districts Ambegamuwa escaped lightly.

CROPS.—On the whole the season was a favourable one for the crops and compares well with previous years.

LABOUR is sufficient for our requirements, generally speaking.

RICE.—Very severe losses were made during the year.

MEDICAL.—The Hospital visitors' report is laid on the table and it will be noticed that the progress made with the new extension to the Nawalapitiya hospital has been scandalous and the overcrowding of the present building is disgraceful.

ROADS are in very fair order and the greatest credit is due to the D.E. A number of blind corners has been cut back.

RAILWAYS.—Twice during the year communications were broken down and this Association wishes to place on record its appreciation of the prompt and efficient way in which the C.G.B. dealt with the trouble.

The thanks of our Association are due to Mr. W. J. Mason for having audited the accounts and to the National Bank for doing so banking free.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

The CHAIRMAN, addressing the meeting, said that there was very little that he could say in addition to the report which had just been submitted. Taken on the whole the year had been a very successful one for the district. Thrice in the year very bad weather was experienced but he was thankful to say that Ambegamuwa had got through very well. In other districts thousands of rupees damages had been caused owing to the floods and he thought they should congratulate themselves in having got off lightly. They had made some appreciative references to the C.G.R., and he thought they deserved them. For members too, he thought, might take credit for the satisfactory ending of the railway trouble, for during the slips they lent the railway hundreds of coolies daily in facilitating the work of clearing the line, etc. From a

point of view the speaker remarked that it had been a very good year. On the whole he was proud to say that the states in the Ambegamuwa district were cleaner than in the past. He thought they might take credit for that. (Hear, hear.) Tea prices had been distinctly good. Loss in rice had been very severe, and it was a matter which required serious attention. The C.M.R. and C.P.R.C. were well supported during the year. In conclusion, the speaker thanked the Hon. Secretary for the trouble he had taken during the year on behalf of the Association and the members for their attendance and assistance in various ways. He then vacated the chair expressing his regret that he could not see his way to stand again owing to pressure of work.

The annual report was duly adopted.

Mr. BLACKMORE was voted temporarily to the chair. He said that he wished to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for his most useful work during the year. Mr. Wilkins had given up a great deal of his time to the interests of the Association. He had attended the Kandy meetings very frequently with the results that they had been well advised as to what had been going on in planting politics. The motion was put to the meeting and carried with applause.

Mr. WILKINS thanked the meeting briefly.

Mr. BLACKMORE, then proposed Mr. Balean as Chairman for the current year. This motion being put to the house was unanimously carried.

Mr. BALEAN, on taking the chair, thanked them for the honour they had done him by electing him as Chairman. Mr. Wilkins was a very hard man to follow, he said, but they could rest assured that he would do his best to advance the interests of the Association. Mr. Benison had also expressed his inability to serve as Hon. Secretary for another year; so if he (Mr. Benison) had not changed his mind it would remain with them to elect a new Hon. Secretary.

Mr. GIBBON proposed Mr. R. Senior White as Hon. Secretary, Mr. SHAND seconded.—Carried.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The following were elected:—Messrs. J. Aymer, F. J. Fernando, H. C. Bryett, A. R. T. Gibbon, S. P. Blackmore, M. J. Mason, H. M. Gordon, M. L. Wilkins and C. G. Spiller, with the Chairman and Hon. Secretary as ex-officio members.

KANDY COMMITTEE: Messrs. S. P. Blackmore and M. L. Wilkins.

HOSPITAL VISITORS: Mr. O. Balean (for Nawalapitiya Hospital), Mr. E. H. Hitchcock (Watawala Dispensary).

AUDITOR: Mr. W. J. Mason.

C. N. A. COMMITTEE: Mr. M. L. Wilkins.

BENEVOLENT FUND: Mr. M. L. Wilkins, H. M. Gordon.

VIGILANCE COMMITTEE: (In connection with roads): Messrs. R. Bennett, S. P. Blackmore, M. L. Wilkins, F. J. Fernando and H. C. Bryett.

The CHAIRMAN regretted he had omitted to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Hon. Secretary. He

had now much pleasure in doing so. The motion was carried with acclamation.

HOSPITAL REPORT.

The following were the hospital reports:—

REPORT ON THE NAWALAPITIYA HOSPITAL FOR 1913.

Throughout the year the hospital and godowns have been maintained in their usual clean and orderly condition. Food is of very good quality and ample in quantity. No complaint have at any time been received. Surroundings of the hospital are kept as clean and tidy as the storage of materials and desultory buildings going on permits. The full staff has been in attendance during the year and every care has been taken to minimise the bad effects of overcrowding. Neglect to cure this evil as quickly as possible shows such a callous disregard of its responsibilities on the part of Government as to amount to criminal negligence.

At the date of my last visit, 21st January, 1914, there were 86 in-patients in a hospital built to accommodate only 46. This speaks for itself and whilst no doubt the Medical Department was to blame originally for not insisting on additional wards being built earlier, yet now they are sanctioned and have been for the past two years—the entire blame rest with the P.W.D.

P. W. D. Engineers have been changed three times in this district since January, 1913, six times since January, 1912. On October 21st, 1913, I went at the request of the Kotmale P.A. to report on the progress made with building the new wards. I found:—

1. There was no timber yet on the spot, very few bricks in hand and but little sand, but the P. W. D. with its usual futile foresight had got the full number on the spot of what were least required, namely, Mangalore tiles.

2. Nothing had been done to the D.M.O.'s new bungalow except to enquire about a site.

3. The new wards walls averaged 3 ft. high and the foundation of the latrine, &c., put in. All the masons had been taken off to work on the slips on the Dolosbugie road with the exception of one grey-headed old man whom I trust may be spared to see the completion of the work.

On January 21st, 1914, I found no timber, but few bricks and practically no sand on the spot. Mangalore tiles as formerly. Ward walls averaged about 8 ft. high and window frames were in position; the latrine, &c., as they were in October. No masons were working and could not have been for some time as the sites are rapidly being overgrown with grass and a peaceful calm prevails.

No start has been made with the new bungalow for the D.M.O., but I understand a very suitable site on Brigend estate has been purchased from Mr. Aymer, who met the authorities in a very liberal spirit.

From enquiries I find that Messrs. Brown & Co.'s building contractor was approached by the P.W.D. re building the bungalow. The same man has completed 4 bungalows for the C.G.R. although the contracts were given out long after the hospital was started. The contractor refused the rates offered, saying they were those in force of 15 years ago. Surely the P.W.D. can pay the same rates as the C. G. R. and get its work done. This is the whole secret of the delay and inefficiency of the P. W. D. here and, I expect, elsewhere. They will not level up to date their contract rates or get together a proper labour force. The contract rates at Nawalapitiya are too low to induce a contractor with means and a command of labour to take up the work. In the meantime the increased suffering and decreased chances of recovery of patients on account of gross overcrowding goes on. I sincerely hope that the blame will be chalked up against the P. W. D. official responsible, for extra punishment hereafter let us hope by making them work on their own contracts at their own rates.

OSWALD BALEAN,

Hospital Visitor.

Ambegamuwa P.A.

Imboolpitiya,

January 21st, 1914.

REPORT ON WATALAWA DISPENSARY.

I visited the above dispensary on the 26th January. The building is in good repair and the dispensing department clean and well-stocked.

E. H. HITCHCOCK.

Watalawa,

January 26th, 1914.

The CHAIRMAN said that the above report showed exactly how matters stood in connection with the Nawalapitiya hospital. It was two years since the Colonial Secretary was written to and things stirred up. It was now in the same mess again. At the present rate of progress he thought there was no chance of the extension to the hospital being completed during the current year.

Mr. WILKINS said he himself had something to do with the agitation in connection with the question of the hospital extension. He approached the Colonial Secretary and the result of the agitation was that building operations began. He had made some investigations and, though what their Chairman had stated in his report was quite correct, they had to consider the fact that there were five or six District Engineers in a comparatively short time. By the time one man got to know the district he was shifted. The present new D. E. whom he knew to be an exceptionally efficient man in other districts might be expected to see things through without undue delay. Then again the floods had done much damage, the contractors brick kiln was washed away twice. However he thought the matter might be left entirely in the hands of the Chairman. If he would let him know whether things were not going to improve they might approach the Rural Member of Council and see what could be done to set matters right.

The CHAIRMAN: I will be glad to follow Mr. Wilkins' advice. The new District Engineer must be given a fair chance and if matters do not improve, things must take their own course.

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. SHAND.

PUSSELLAWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting of the above was held at the Club Pavilion on Saturday, the 7th February, at 2 p.m., preceded by a Committee Meeting an hour earlier. Mr. Geo. E. Benzie (Chairman) presided. Those present were:—Messrs. H. M. Picken, P. Eardley Wilmot, O. C. Shelton Agar, P. A. Cornish, O. S. Edwards, W. H. Murray, W. F. C. Rolt, J. A. Burmester, Douglas Westland, Gilbert Fenning, H. J. G. Marley, J. A. D. Dempsey, M. B. Clapham, H. Nelson Brown, H. S. Stevens, G. P. Gaddum, R. S. Northway, R. B. Perring, and A. V. Van Langenberg, and P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary).

The accounts for the past year, shewing a balance of Rs. 302.20 at credit, were submitted and passed.

S. P. C. A.

The contribution of Rs. 25 towards the S.P.C.A. was agreed upon.

Mr. DOUGLAS WESTLAND thought that the Hatter Nursing Home was as equally deserving an institution as the other and suggested the desirability of a similar contribution.—Agreed.

A TYPEWRITER.

Mr. W. H. MURRAY proposed that a typewriter to be the exclusive property of the Association be requisitioned the expenditure which is to be at the discretion of the Chairman and Hon. Secretary being limited to Rs. 30.

Mr. DOUGLAS WESTLAND said that it was a good investment for the Association considering the amount annually expended on printing.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

Mr. GEO. BENZIE said that they had had a quiet year. The floods were the worst recorded to which must be attributed the proposed construction of a new Hospital. Everything was satisfactory. Labour troubles were not more marked than heretofore. He did not propose to detain them very long with explanations of various items of interest with which they are well acquainted. In moving the adoption of the report he thanked the various Committees and the Secretary for their assistance.

This was seconded and carried unanimously.

ANNUAL REPORT.

MEETINGS.—There have been four general meetings, each preceded by a Committee Meeting, held during the year, two at Gampola, and two at Pussellawa. The attendance has been generally good. Some important subjects have been dealt with. The Gampola hospital which is so unhealthy situated is at last condemned, and we have a promise from Government that they will acquire another site and build a new hospital.

TEA PLANTS AND TEA LEAF THEFTS.—These have been so serious and frequent that we have been able to put a strong enough case before the Parent Association for them to approach Government with the object of including these in the Prudential Products Ordinance, as under the existing Ordinance a conviction is most difficult to obtain.

OBITUARY.—Your Committee regrets to have to place a record the death during the year of Mr. Wm. MacGregor thereby losing its oldest resident in the district, and one who has always taken a keen interest in its welfare.

FINANCE.—The accounts have been brought up to date and show a balance of Rs. 302.20 at credit. Mr. D. J. Blyth has kindly audited the accounts.

CROP AND ESTIMATES.—The first half-year's crops were generally above normal, but the latter half showed a falling off owing to adverse weather conditions and close with crops generally below 1912 figures for the upper districts while rubber in the Gampola district was accountable for shorter tea crops than. Estimated tea crop from estates in the district is well over 9,000,000 lbs., that from native gardens is estimated at 2,750,000 lbs. There has been some small additions to the tea acreage.

RUBBER.—Generally healthy throughout the district and free from disease. The estimates have been exceeded. Estimated crop for 1914 is 350,000 lbs.

TEA MARKET.—Prices have been very satisfactory.

RUBBER MARKET.—Prices have shown a downward tendency during the year. Prices have averaged about Rs. 1.65 per lb.

LABOUR.—Your Committee report no improvement in the position of labour; advances are still rising. It is hoped that during the coming year the new P.L.F. will have the desired effect.

ROADS.—It is the opinion of the Committee that more cutting of blind corners should be done. A few corners were cut at the beginning of the year, since then no progress is reported, which is to be regretted considering the increase in motor traffic and danger to the public. The Ramboda, Pussellawa, and Poopria are in much improved condition, but the roads in the vicinity of Gampola suffer for want of a steam-roller.

GENERAL HEALTH.—This year has been generally healthy throughout the district.

HOSPITAL REPORTS.

GAMPOLA HOSPITAL.—I visited the Gampola hospital on November 13th. Dr. Ludowyke and full staff were there. The patients were 29 males and 24 females. There were no complaints. The wards fitted with mosquito proof wire gauze, smelt very stuffy and seemed to require more ventilation. Signs of the flood of October 5th and 6th were evident on the walls in the form of damp. The walls of the medical assistant's quarters have partly collapsed. These quarters are at present unfit for habitation, about 8 feet of the per lining of the wall in the centre quadrangle with the wooden strom covering has fallen in having a dangerous and unsightly gap. As the wall is never used now it should be fitted in. Floods seem to be more frequent than formerly. Before the October one the lower wards, kitchens, store room, &c., had been flooded three times this year; in fact since 1906 there has scarcely been a year when the hospital premises have not been more or less seriously flooded.

D. J. BLYTH,
Gampola Hospital Visitor.

Shortly after this report was written another flood, which reached a record height, occurred.

PUSSELLAWA HOSPITAL.—I visited the hospital this morning, and found the grounds, wards, etc., very clean and neat. The main chimney is undergoing alterations, and meanwhile the cooking is being done in a temporary shed. The hospital generally in need of a thorough overhaul, certain necessary works being a matter of extreme urgency, which will admit of no delay in execution. (1) The roof of the wards is in a dangerous condition, owing to the decay of some of the main timbers on which the rafters are carried, the cause of which decay has hitherto been hidden under the paint, the roof is sagging in more than one place, and will probably fall in, if subjected to the weight of heavy rain. The roof generally has been leaking during the wet weather. It is a matter of urgency that the roof be thoroughly overhauled during the course of the present dry weather, and that the broken or otherwise rotten timber be removed and replaced, and that the tiles be laid where necessary to close the leaks. If this matter is delayed until April rains commence, there may be serious accidents. (2) The water supply requires immediate attention, and alterations in the piping of this will be found necessary. At present there is no water at all coming through the pipe to the operating theatre, notwithstanding the fact that this received attention, and is supposed to have been put in proper order last week. Apparently the piping from the tank to the theatre is too small, and too full of bends, and it is quite possible that some of these bends may have become blocked with silt. I would recommend that the piping be taken up and that larger piping free of bends as far as possible be laid, and steps be taken to prevent the possibility of any silt gaining access to and lodging in the pipes. If it is possible to raise the tank slightly, the flow of water to the theatre will, with advantage, be subject to greater pressure than it attains at the present moment. (3) From the commencement of the present visitors' book which goes back as far as the year 1902 and possibly since before then, every hospital visitor has consistently pointed out the necessity of building a covered way from the wards to the latrines. Not the slightest notice has apparently been taken of this repeated report. It must be obvious that it is not only an inconvenience, but a dangerous practice for certain of the patients to have to traverse the space intervening between the latrines and the wards during the heavy rain frequently prevailing in the wet months. At any rate it would be difficult

to imagine that it can be beneficial to the health of patients suffering from, say, pneumonia and similar complaints. The medical officer in charge of the hospital, Dr. Charles Fernando, informs me that the most prevalent cause of sickness in the district is Anchylostomiasis and worms. The former is very prevalent not only among the estate coolies but also among the villagers who in the district have considerable intercourse with the estate labourers. During the last twelve months 49 cases of Anchylostomiasis have been treated in the hospital out of which there have been six deaths. The other most frequent causes of ill-health issue to intestinal worms, cases reported as dysentery and diarrhoea being frequently in reality cases of illness due to this cause. Generally speaking except for these complaints the district is very healthy and fortunately fairly free from malaria. During 1913 there were 42 deaths out of 232 indoor patients as compared with 69 deaths out of 141 indoor patients in the previous year. The number of patients in the hospital at the time of my visit was males 5, females 6; total 11.

GILBERT FENNING,
Sogama Estate, Pussellawa.

GAMPOLA SUSPENSION BRIDGE.—This bridge is in a very unsafe condition, and it is hoped that estimates have been provided for erecting a new bridge during 1914 as fresh outbreaks of rinderpest are of frequent occurrence, and a motor lorry service is a matter of extreme urgency. Owing to the increasing demand for liquid fuel, it is the opinion of the Committee that a large installation is necessary at Gampola.

C. P. R. C.—A much improved account of this section is reported this year. Sir Francis Sibbald Scott is now in command. The active strength consists of one Sergeant, one Corporal, three Lance-Corporals and 10 Riflemen. All except one made themselves efficient. In shooting 11 members out of a total of 15 became marksmen. Drills during the year have been well attended and it is hoped that the next camp will be better supported.

C. M. R.—It is to be regretted that the only news of this section is that there are no members left.

Mr. Geo. F. Benzie then vacated the chair.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

Mr. G. P. Gaddum proposed by Mr. O. C. SHELTON AGAR, and seconded by Mr. D. WESTLAND being elected Chairman *pro tem* said that they all recognised the very hard work done by Mr. Geo. F. Benzie during the last three years as their Chairman. Therefore he had very great pleasure in proposing a very hearty vote of thanks to him; seconded by Mr. H. M. PICKEN.—Carried unanimously.

THE NEW CHAIRMAN.

Mr. GEO. E. BENZIE, having thanked them, proposed Mr. H. M. Picken to be the new Chairman.

The suggestion being made that he (Mr. Benzie) should be their Chairman, Mr. Benzie explained his inability to accept the honour. His absence from the Island again was inevitable and his work had increased enormously.

Thereupon Mr. H. M. Picken, seconded by Mr. H. NELSON BROWN was unanimously elected Chairman.

Mr. H. M. PICKEN thanked them for the honour done him.

HON. SECRETARY.

Mr. W. H. MURRAY proposed that Mr. P. P. C. Walker be re-elected Hon. Secretary.

Mr. H. M. PICKEN said that he accepted the Chairmanship on the supposition that Mr. P. P. C. Walker would be the Hon. Secretary.

Mr. O. C. SHELTON AGAR seconded, and also proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary for his past services which was seconded by Mr. P. EARDLY WILMOT, and carried unanimously.

Mr. DOUGLAS WESTLAND proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee and others who rendered assistance in drafting the annual report.

Mr. O. C. SHELTON AGAR seconded.—Carried unanimously

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The following were elected:—Messrs. J. A. Burmester, D. J. Blyth, J. D. Mendis, O. S. Edwards, D. Westland, W. F. C. Rolt, R. S. Northway, E. A. Clive, E. D. Beresford Bruce, H. J. G. Marley, W. W. Stevens, C. B. Loudon Shand, J. Aymer, O. C. Shelton Agar, G. Fenning, W. H. Murray, M. B. Clapham, H. Nelson Brown, P. Eardly Wilmot, A. Tait, H. J. P. Samarasekera, Geo. Benzie, D. H. Unwin, G. A. S. Collin, P. A. Cornish, and A. V. VanLengenberg (Hon. Member), C. Charlton Jones, G. P. Gaddum, W. Hermon.

KANDY COMMITTEE, FIVE MEMBERS.

Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Messrs. W. H. Murray, Geo. Benzie and D. J. Blyth.

J. P. and U. P. M.—Messrs. H. M. Picken, Geo. Benzie, W. H. Murray.

District Hospital Visitors.—Gampola, D. J. Blyth, Pussellawa, G. Fenning.

Planters' Benevolent Fund.—Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

ROAD GRANTS.

The following correspondence was read:—

New Peacock,
Gampola,
October 8th, 1913.

DEAR SIR,

I thank you for your postcard reminding me to apply for the annual grant of Rs. 100. Up to the end of September the amount expended is Rs. 10-17 as per enclosed memo. The large bridge on this road was completely destroyed by the floods on August 17th. This is now being rebuilt and I estimate that the cost will come to Rs. 800 to Rs. 900. As this road is a public for foot passengers and of great inconvenience to natives I shall be glad to know if you think Government would grant an extra allowance towards the cost of repairing the bridge and if you will be good enough to make further application,

Yours faithfully,
M. B. CLAPHAM.

New Peacock,
Gampola,
January 16th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

I wrote you on October 8th last re the Darlington-Pussellawa road. I asked if you would kindly make an application for a further grant to help pay the cost of erecting an entirely new bridge on this road. If nothing had been done I should like to bring the matter before the next P.A. meeting and get members to support my application. Another matter I should like to see brought up is the desirability of establishing some kind of fixed rate for recruiting new Coast coolies. With the new P.L.F. rules in force it would be more satisfactory to have some unanimity in the district. I do not refer

to the money paid at Coast but to the amounts advanced to kangas and coolies going to Coast and the rate per head given them as a bonus on their return.

Yours faithfully,

M. B. CLAPHAM.

Mr. CLAPHAM said that this was an exceptional case requiring a special grant of Rs. 500.—Mr. WESTLAND supported.—Agreed.

Mr. H. NELSON BROWN inquired whether any reply had been received regarding the Pooprassie Bridge.

Mr. WALKER said that no reply had been received.

Mr. BROWN said that the road ends very near the Bridge and not 700 yards away from it as was stated in Kandy. In view of the gravity of the situation it is highly necessary to obtain a reply.

Mr. P. EARDLY WILMOT said that the Pussellawa road from Gampola between the 14th and 15th mile-posts was in a dangerous and disgraceful condition. He made no reflection on the District Engineer.

Mr. H. M. PICKEN said that all the roads were in fair order except that portion between the 14th and 15th mile posts which required to be attended to.

The following applications for road grants were submitted:—Bukanda-Gampola, Rs. 133.33; Rajatalawa-Galloway Knowe, Rs. 50; Beaumont Bridge, Rs. 60; Pussellawa-Kalugalla, Rs. 50.50; Pussellawa Post Office Melfort, Rs. 10; Pussellawa-Daltotta, Rs. 50; Pussellawa-Nayapane, Rs. 50; New Peacock-Darlington, Rs. 600; Savernake-Nayapane, Rs. 90; Nawalapitiya-Pussellawa, Rs. 50; Bukanda-Dambalagalla, Rs. 50.—Total Rs. 1,193.33.

Last year the total amounted to Rs. 745.

LIQUID FUEL INSTALLATION.

The following correspondence was read:—

Beaumont,
Pussellawa,
February 4th, 1914

DEAR SIR,

I asked that the above subject might be put on the agenda, in order that we may be able to discuss the situation publicly with regard to the continual shortage of stocks held in Gampola. For some time past there had been nothing but complaints from consumers with, I think, very good reason. Situated, as they are, some 10 or 12 miles from Gampola as the Pussellawa end of the district and several large factories with an annual outturn of $\frac{1}{2}$ million lbs. besides several smaller concerns, which are entirely dependent on liquid fuel engines for their motive power. It is therefore of the greatest importance that stocks are always procurable in Gampola when called for. Many of us can recall the annoyance and expense of sending carts to Gampola only to be informed on arrival that there is no fuel in stock. The bulls either have to return to the estate or stop in Gampola, with the chance of contracting rinderpest. Another complaint was the quality. . . . I see the reason why the local agents should not inform their regular customers when any shortage arises, I might point out that though I have used liquid fuel for the past 9 years it has only been the last 4 months or so that I have been drawing my supplies from Gampola. Hitherto I have always gone to New Peradeniya, being cheaper. It shows a saving of $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. per gallon after paying rail freight by ways on empties and full barrels, provided you send not less than 18 barrels, or for 520 gallons. I suggest the figures be collected from consumers of what their actual consumption is like to be

month. The local agents would probably be in a position to give names of buyers. I will, at the meeting on Saturday, bring up a resolution on this subject.

Yours faithfully,
H. M. PICKEN,

Mr. PICKEN said that it struck him that the stock was insufficient. When it would be replenished nobody knew. They could neither tell him how much fuel they sell a month nor the quantity in stock ordinarily. Therefore he proposed the following resolution:—1. That owing to the yearly increase in consumption of liquid fuel Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. be asked to enlarge the storage accommodation at Gampola. 2. That the local agents be asked to inform regular customers when stocks are exhausted and in that event to advise them when fresh supplies are expected.

Mr. FENNING said he was put to great inconvenience and trouble since the great flood, which carried away the tank to some distance, and in consequence there was no fuel to be had. If they had been informed of the situation in time, fuel could have been obtained from elsewhere straight.

Mr. WESTLAND said that the hours of business were not notified, which caused him great inconvenience besides the poverty of the measure which entailed a loss of about 14 per cent. They gauged the froth level in the can instead of the actual liquid level. Therefore he proposed the following resolutions in addition:—3. That hours of business be posted on the door of the office. 4. That more care be taken to see that proper measures be issued. Less consideration to froth levels instead of actual liquid fuel level in measuring gauges.

These 4 resolutions were carried unanimously.

THE RURAL MEMBER IN COUNCIL.

Mr. H. M. PICKEN reminded members of the important meeting to be held in Kandy when the election of a Rural Member and Chairman will take place. As they know there were two gentlemen nominated, and it would rest with the planters as to whom shall be elected. It was the duty of every planter either to attend this meeting or to send a proxy in order that someone might act for him. He also drew attention to the fact, that one could vote or sign a proxy until the 1914 subscription has been paid.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

KANDY DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual General Meeting of the Kandy District Planters' Association was held in the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, at 2 p.m., on Saturday, the 7th February, Mr. C. C. du Pre Moore presided, and the others present were:—Messrs G. F. Farquharson, A. Lee Simpson, E. W. Keith, H. F. Dalton, E. F. Home, G. Kenion, Gilbert James, J. R. Dashwood, R. C. Boustead, and Captain F. E. Henderson (Hon. Secretary).

The Hon. Secretary read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last general meeting held on

the 11th October last, were taken as read and confirmed.

ABSENT MEMBERS.

The HON. SECRETARY mentioned that Messrs. G. J. Murray, R. W. Carmichael, and J. B. Coles had informed of him their inability to be present at the meeting.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The HON. SECRETARY read the annual report, which was as follows:—

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 48 estates enrolled on register this year, as against 51 estates in 1912, and one private member.

MEETINGS.—3 Committee meetings and 3 General meetings have been held during the year, and we are pleased to report that they have been very well attended. At our last meeting 42 per cent. of the members attended, which is a record for this Association.

TEA.—The season has not been a particularly favourable one for crop, and the output for the district generally shows a decrease on last year's figures for estate crops. The weather has run in extremes of wet and drought, and three disastrous periods of severe rain seriously checked output. Little really forcing weather has been experienced, and the last quarter of the year was much too wet for anything like an autumn rush of leaf. The middle part of the year was dry and the South-West Monsoon did not make itself felt until October. The presence of rubber interplanted amongst the tea on many estates accounts for a good deal of the shortage, and as these trees grow in size so will the yield of the tea under rubber decrease. The increase in crop from native gardens is considerable, and the planting up of village lands in tea that has gone on for the past three or four years is now making itself felt. Further opening of native holdings in tea has gone on through the year, and more from this source may be looked for in the future. The market has been in producers' favour, and the prices obtained for medium elevation tea, at which the bulk of the district's tea is grown, have been good. The tea position generally is strong, and there does not seem to be any reason why it should not continue so. Good returns from this product may be looked for in the future.

TEA PESTS.—The district generally is free from blights and pests other than shot-hole borer, and this latter, if anything, is less in evidence; artificial manuring and higher cultivation generally have helped to keep it in check.

COCOA.—The year under review was an exceedingly disappointing one for cocoa. Owing to the abnormally wet weather in December and January there was little or no spring crop. The autumn crop also suffered considerably on account of the drought experienced through the failure of the S.-W. Monsoon. There was a good deal of difficulty in curing the crop gathered in January owing to continuous wet weather all through that month. The rains also brought on a bad attack of pod and tree canker. Heliopectis and canker were not so much in evidence during the latter part of the year. Thefts were not quite so bad as in previous years. This is undoubtedly, in a great measure, due to the action of Government in reducing the number of licensed dealers and thus bringing them under better control. Prices on the whole were satisfactory and remained about the same as previous year.

RUBBER.—On reviewing season 1913 the first thing that is noticeable is the large increase in crops compared with season 1912. A considerable acreage has come into bearing, and trees previously tapped have given larger yields. There seems no reason why this district should not hold its own in producing rubber. The general growth has been most satisfactory, and as far as is known there is very little disease. The question of close planting must be considered in the near future. Unless trees are thinned out, where closely planted, we are bound to get canker and other pests. This is a matter that should be taken into serious consideration, and your Committee trusts it will receive the attention it deserves. The

weather on the whole has not been favourable for the product. The season commenced with most unusual rains, and with the exception of a few extremely wet days which caused great damage, the S.-W. Monsoon was practically a failure. The market for rubber has varied considerably, and there has been a big drop in prices obtained in comparison with last season. Preference is being given to smoked diamond sheet, in fact, all smoked varieties are obtaining better prices than ordinary crepe. Some experiments have been made in making "Fine Hard Para" apparently with successful results, but nothing has so far been done on a commercial scale, and more attention has been paid to the tapping, and it is realized that this is a great factor in the continuance of steady returns and satisfactory bark renewal. On the whole the tapping is much lighter than in the early days of this industry, the general rule being out cut. Bark renewal has been good. Taken all round the position may be considered quite satisfactory. The heavy fall in prices has seriously affected all interested in rubber, but once we can be sure of a steady market the position of affairs will greatly improve.

LABOUR.—The labour supply throughout the district has been somewhat short of requirements. A Proprietors' Labour Federation has recently been formed with a view to calling a halt on advances, 54 per cent. of the estates in this district have joined the Federation. Every effort is being made to encourage direct Coast recruiting, and with the extra inducements held out to coolies in the shape of free passages from India to the estate it is expected that labour will be plentiful in the near future. Special attention is being paid throughout the district to improvements in coolie lines and water supply, and the health of the labour is being more carefully studied.

FOOD SUPPLY.—The increase in the cost of rice has resulted in a heavy losses to the estates, and a Commission has been appointed to thoroughly investigate this matter. It is to be hoped that some other and cheaper source of food supply will be opened.

ROADS.—The roads in this District have generally been well maintained during the year. Several complaints have been received about the way the metal is heaped almost on the roads, leaving little or no room for two cars to pass. It is to be hoped that the P. W. D. will in future pile the metal for repairs off the road where possible.

HOSPITAL.—Your hospital visitors have visited the Kandy Hospital at regular intervals during the past year and submitted full and ample reports of the conditions of the buildings and the welfare of the patients, which you have all heard read at our meetings. Their recommendations on various minor points have your Committee are glad to say, received ready attention at the hands of the P. C. M. O. and several small improvements have been effected. But on the larger issue your Committee regrets to say their efforts have not been so successful. However in spite of considerable opposition your Committee have determined to press the matter home, the result being the resolution which was passed at the last meeting and the appointment of a powerful Committee to investigate and report on the advisability of building an endowed Planters' Ward in connection with the Kandy Hospital, as the conditions hitherto maintaining in that branch of the hospital are to say the least of it most unsatisfactory. The following Associations were invited to give the motion their support and appoint members to serve on this Commission: Matsala, Rangalla, Hewahette, Pussellawa, Knuckles, Neboda and Panvila. The motion has met with most cordial support from these Associations. A Commission in every way representative

has been formed, a meeting has been held, and the report will be submitted to this Association in due course.

FINANCE.—Your Committee reports that the balance to the debit of this Association amounts to Rs. 45.81. The following are the remarks on the accounts, which have been audited and found correct by Mr. Kenion, who kindly undertook this work during the absence of your elected auditor, Mr. Gordon Pyper, jnr.:—

I have audited the books and found them correct and the books correctly kept.

The expenditure for the past year exceeds the income by Rs. 45.81. This is not surprising, considering the income is only Rs. 240 and the clerk's pay alone absorbs Rs. 180 of this, leaving a balance of only Rs. 60 to defray all the other expenses of the Association. There does not appear to be any cause for alarm at this deficit to have a whip round to make it good. Last year five estates seceded, mostly owing to the raising of the subscription to Rs. 17.50. Two more estates are joining for the coming year. The clerk's pay might well be reduced to Rs. 10 per mensem. The advertising also looms large in the expenditure, and it is for the meeting to decide whether they wish to continue the expensive system of advertising each meeting three separate times in three separate papers. It would appear to be sufficient to advertise the meetings in one paper only, and the *Times of Ceylon* is the paper that suggests itself. Should these suggestions be carried out, and due care and economy exercised by the Hon. Secretary, there should be no fear a repetition of a deficit such as papers for the past year.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, before moving the adoption of the report, I should like to thank the members of this Association for the support they have given me during my term of office. I wish, especially, to thank our Secretary for the very excellent work he has put in and for the careful way in which he has fathered and helped us. (Hear, hear.) The wants of the Kandy District, here below, are few and far between. The only complaint I have heard is one against the P.W.D. for the way in which metal is piled by them almost on the roads, which leaves no room for two cars to pass unless one of them charges the metal. (Laughter.) Not being a car owner myself I am quite able to appreciate the humour of the situation from the P.W.D. point of view, but at the same time I am quite understand the feeling of the gentleman whose car is not very good at hill climbing being forced to put it at the metal. (Laughter.) I have been often told, gentlemen, that the poor attendance at lack of interest in our meetings is brought about by the Kandy District having got all they want. Now I ask you gentlemen, why is it we have all we want? Is it not simply and solely due to your members having always insisted on having their wants attended to, and having never allowed themselves to be daunted by any opposition? I will give you one instance. Your hospital visitors have, from time to time, had to complain of the disgraceful state of the pay wards, and now undaunted by the cold reception their commendations have received they have appointed a special committee to go into the question of an endowed Planters' Ward. And when I tell you that Messrs. Lee Simpson, C.

rt James, C. D. Hunt, J. A. Burmester, J. Hall Brown, St. George Carey, L. A. Ewart, C. W. Hunter Blair, James Anderson and G. O. Benzie are serving on the Committee and may rest assured that this scheme could not be in better hands and will receive the attention it so richly deserves. (Hear, hear.) I cannot leave this subject without a special word of thanks to Mr. Lee Simpson and Mr. Gilbert James for the wholehearted manner in which they have identified themselves with this cause. Mr. Gilbert James has tendered his resignation, which will be laid before you in due course, as he is on the eve of his departure for England. I think you will agree with me that in this case England's loss is Kandy's loss, and although we rejoice for his sake, we regret it for our own. (Hear, hear.) As regards infant mortality on estates—I need hardly point out to you that the number of children who die presents an enormous total, and that the neglect of children by their parents is criminal. We should do our utmost to preserve that life in which a few years' time would become a valuable asset to the Labour force. Dr. Langley Hunt and others have advocated the employment of trained midwives to the estates, and I am glad to be able to say that a good many superintendents have acted on this suggestion. When not attending on cases of confinement these women could be got to act as nurses in cases of ordinary sickness and could carry out the dispenser's instructions, and see that the patients take their medicine and food regularly. I trust every member of this Association, will give the new Proprietors' Labour Federation their best support and refrain from crying their proposals until they have had a fair chance of working out their own salvation. The P.L.F. are far from wishing to stifle discussion. In fact a letter will be laid before you today in which they call for suggestions. Constructive criticism is invited. What is to be deprecated is the tempt to throw cold water on a scheme by those who can suggest no alternative one. This reminds me of the Irishman who, when you are trying to jump your horse, says:—“Put him over your honour, put him over, begorra, but when you suggest that he should get into the saddle and let the animal over himself, he refuses.” (Laughter.) It hardly up to me to remind you that the Planters' Association runs a Benevolent Fund, and I can only tell you that money is always needed and ever welcome. There seems to be a popular idea abroad that the subscription on the part of the proprietors absolves the individual from the burden of a private subscription. The idea I would dispel. When you reflect on the amount of real assistance given, and the careful manner in which the fund is administered. I am sure you will agree with me that it is a duty, nay rather an obligation, on every Superintendent to subscribe. Gentlemen, I have been asking for your sympathies for the living, and now I must claim them for the dead. Mr. Shand has written to the papers under date 15th January, 1914, calling attention to the disgraceful state of the Kandy cemeteries. Some of you have already had the opportunity of subscribing to the scheme for putting these last resting places in a good condition. A list will be

handed round, and those of you who have not had an opportunity of subscribing will kindly send their subscriptions to the Honorary Secretary for the coming year, who will, I am sure, be glad to receive them and forward them through the correct channel. The state of the cemeteries is a reproach to Ceylon in general and Kandy in particular. I gather that the condition of volunteering in Ceylon is not all that could be desired, and, although Kandy is not worse than its neighbours, it is, I regret to say, no better in this respect. The numbers joining annually are not sufficient for the requirements of the Corps, and the attendance at drills and camps of those who have joined is hardly as large as might be desired. I am told that the motor cycle is taking men away from the C.M.R. (Laughter.) If this is the case the substitution of mechanical transport for equestrian though depriving them of the means of becoming horse soldiers affords them the greater facility of reaching the rendezvous of the foot soldier. We, older members of this Association,

Have fought for King and Country
Like gallant men and true
—On the Bogambra green. (Laughter.)
We have only done our duty,
As a man is bound to do.

I, therefore, recommend this couplet to the attention of the younger generation. Finally, gentlemen, prospects for the New Year appear to be very rare and if the members of this Association will continue to work together in unity I have no hesitation in thinking that every and any problem or difficulty that may arise at any future date will be quickly dispelled. With these few words I now move the adoption of the report. (Applause.)

The motion was duly carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

The CHAIRMAN and Hon. Secretary then vacated their seats, and the meeting proceeded to elect office-bearers for the year 1914.

Mr. G. KENTON, who was voted to the chair, *pro tem*, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman for the way in which he had guided the Association during the past year. (Hear, hear.) Their meetings, he was glad to note, as stated in the report, were very much better attended in the past year than before. In fact the attendance at the last meeting was a record one; and they had to thank Mr. du Pre Moore and also Captain Henderson for those successful meetings. (Hear, hear.) A great deal of work had devolved on Captain Henderson, who had carried out his work very well. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. C. C. DU PRE MOORE and Captain F. E. HENDERSON returned thanks.

Mr. G. KENTON then proposed that Mr. E. F. HOME be elected Chairman for the ensuing year. Mr. Home, he said, had many years' experience in planting and was quite familiar with tea, cocoa and other products. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. G. A. FARQUHARSON seconded.

Mr. E. W. KEITH: Will not Mr. Moore serve for another year?

Mr. C. C. DU PRE MOORE: Not for any consideration even a salary. (Laughter.) I have had my turn.

The motion was then unanimously carried.

Mr. E. F. HOME then occupied the chair and thanked the meeting for his election. He proposed that Captain F. E. Henderson be elected Hon. Secretary.

Captain HENDERSON said that he was sorry he could not take up the Secretaryship again. He found that increasing work and greater responsibility now left him very little time to spare to attend to other work. It was desirable that younger men should fill the office. The Secretaryship should be the training ground for future Chairmen. (Laughter.) He would hasten, however, to add that he had no ambition to occupy the chair. (Renewed laughter.) He proposed that Mr. G. KENION be appointed Hon. Secretary.

Mr. A. LEE SIMPSON seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

The following Committees were then elected:—

GENERAL COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Stanley Hillman, G. F. Murray, G. F. Farquharson, A. Lee Simpson, H. F. Dalton, C. C. du Pre Moore, and Captain F. E. Henderson.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Chairman, Secretary, Mr. C. C. du Pre Moore, Captain F. E. Henderson, and Mr. J. B. Coles.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. A. Lee Simpson and G. Farquharson.

PLANT PEST BOARD.—The Chairman.

CEYLON NURSING ASSOCIATION.—Mr. Gordon Pyper, jr.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Chairman and Secretary.

ADVERTISING.

The CHAIRMAN: The next business is to consider the suggestion as regards expenditure, in the matter of advertising. The expenditure would be reduced by advertising the meetings of the Association only in one paper. Has anybody anything to say?

Mr. E. W. KEITH: This question came up for consideration two years ago and it was decided to advertise once only in three papers.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that will be sufficient.

On the motion of Mr. G. A. FARQUHARSON, seconded by Mr. E. W. KEITH, it was then resolved to advertise once in each of three papers.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, KANDY.

A SERIOUS COMPLAINT.

The meeting went into Committee and discussed a serious complaint made by Mr. J. A. Burmester about the preparation of food for the patients in the paying wards of the Kandy General Hospital, and it was resolved that Mr. Burmester be written to to ask him if he is prepared to substantiate the statements made by him, at a special Committee meeting.

A PLANTERS' WARD

CONSULTATION WITH OUTSIDE MEDICAL MEN.

The general meeting being resumed the Hon. Secretary read the following:—

Minutes of meeting of Hospital Committee held at Queen's Hotel, Kandy, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, the 24th January, 1914.

Present.—Messrs. Gilbert James, J. W. Burmester, C. W. Hunter Blair, James Anderson, C. D. Hunt, and A. Lee Simpson. Mr. A. Lee Simpson was duly elected to the chair.

The Chairman explained to the meeting the reason for the necessity of delegates from the various districts interested being appointed, and read the Kandy District Planters' Association's resolution on the subject. The question of building an endowed planter ward in connection with the Kandy hospital and the alternative proposals of buying a bungalow or buying land and building a hospital, and running same independent of Government were discussed, and it was decided that, if permission was obtained for any medical man to be allowed to be called in in consultation (as desired by patients or their relatives or friends) to the proposed new planters' ward in connection with the Kandy hospital, this scheme was the most desirable; but failing this permission being obtained, that the Committee would again meet and discuss the question further.

RESOLUTION.—"That this Committee are strongly of the opinion that the building of a Planters' Ward in conjunction with the Kandy Government hospital as proposed by the Kandy Districts Planters' Association is decidedly needed, and that the Kandy District Planters' Association be requested to lay the matter before the Committee of the Parent Association as early as possible, and at the same time to point out the need of outside medical men being allowed to be called in in consultation.

A letter was received by the Chairman stating that Mr. Geo. Benzie was in India, and would not be able, in consequence to attend the meeting. At close of meeting the following telegram was received from Mr. Hall Brown:—

"Only just got your card. Too late. Sorry.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON said that there was a mistaken idea about the proposal to call in outside medical men in consultation. That proposal was not to be applied to the Hospital as a whole, but only to the Planters' ward.

The resolution of the Hospital Committee, as above was then unanimously adopted and it was resolved to forward it at, as early a date as possible, to the Committee of the C.P.A. It was also resolved that the Hospital Committee have power to add to their number.

SEGREGATION OF COOLIES AT MANDAPAM.

The HON. SECRETARY submitted a proposal from Mr. G. Kenion suggesting that the Parent Association be requested to petition Government asking that the segregation of coolies coming into Ceylon be carried out at Mandapam instead of at Ragama as hitherto.

Mr. C. C. DU PRE MOORE: I understand that following upon the opening of the Indo-Ceylon Railway coolies coming into the island are to be quarantined on the Indian side and that they are after that period to be sent through direct to their estates. There will be no need for the to go to Ragama at all.

Mr. E. W. KEITH: Yes; they are building a quarantine station and Segregation Camp at Mandapam.

The HON. SECRETARY: I heard that notwithstanding the fact that they are erecting buildings at Mandapam. They are going to segregate coolies at Ragama. I understand that Mr. Still has not heard about segregation at Mandapam.

The CHAIRMAN: We might leave this matter over to the next meeting.

WAREHOUSE RENTS AND WASHAWAYS.

The Association resolved to support the resolution of the Kotmale P.A. asking Government to forego warehouse rent on goods to such estates and for such time as roads are closed by floods and washaways.

POSTAL PILLAR BOXES AT RAILWAY STATIONS.

The Association also supported the resolution of the Kotmale P.A. asking Government to establish postal pillar boxes at all Railway stations.

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

The Hon. Secretary brought up a letter from Mr. John Still, Secretary of the P.L.F., forwarding the resolution passed by the Committee of the P.L.F. at Colombo on the 12th December last, stating that it is prepared to give consideration to any suggestions for the improvement or amendment of the Federation rules.

The Chairman: I think this is a very sound thing. Any suggestions we make may be sent to the Secretary.

SUBSCRIBERS TO COAST AGENCY.

The Hon. Secretary read the letter from the Secretary, C.P.A., already published, about persons wishing to become subscribers to the Coast Agency being first asked to join their District P.A.

RUBBER EXHIBITION.

The circular from the Secretary, Ceylon Chamber of Commerce about the participation of Ceylon in the forthcoming Rubber Exhibition in London was tabled.

LABOUR COMMISSIONER'S ESTIMATES.

The Hon. Secretary tabled Mr. Scoble Nicholson's estimates for 1914 which he submitted to the C.P.A. on the 4th October, 1913, which were considered at the meeting of the Coast Agency Committee on the 14th November, 1913.

KANDY CEMETERIES.

A subscription list was circulated in connection with the above.

With a vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. G. P. FARQUHARSON the meeting ended.

MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

We make the following extracts from the minutes of the annual general meeting of the Mundakayam Planters' Association held at Boyce Bungalow, on Saturday, February 7th.

Present:—Messrs. G. H. Danvers Davy (Chairman), R. Harley (vice-Chairman), H. J. Byrne, W. W. Birthill, E. R. Gudgeon, Ashton Hammond, Eric Hall, J. Y. M. Henderson, Ch. Hendry, H. B. Kirk, H. Lord, C. Martin, J. A. Richardson, A. W. Ruxton, George West, J. Wedder- spoon, and Edwin Vincent (Hon. Secretary). By proxy: Messrs. J. J. Murphy, C. M. Hunnybun and F. A. W. Meumann.

THE REPORT.

The Hon. Secretary said:—"Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,—I have the honour to present my report for the year 1913. The acreage under cultivation in the district at the end of the year was 11,928.15 acres under rubber, 708.18 acres under tea and 45 acres tea and rubber interplanted, making a grand total of 12,681.33 acres. This represents an increase of 188 acres on the figures for 1912, but the 1913 clearings actually amount to more than this, the difference being explained by the fact that resurveys have resulted, in some cases, in a decreased acreage on the figures previously given. The native openings have, in that district, increased by some 225 acres so that at the close of 1913 these holdings amounted to nearly 2,000 acres under rubber. With regard to crop figures, the output in 1912 amounted in round figures to 360,000 lbs. rubber and 730 lbs. tea; the figures last year amounted to the very respectable total of 713,500 lbs. rubber and 12,109 lbs. tea, an increase of 353,500 lbs. rubber and 11,379 lbs. tea, over the previous year. Some estates in the district have kindly furnished me with figures of crop per acre and per tree in 1913. The best returns made are 260 lbs. per acre and 1.50 per tree for 1906 planting but the best record all over is 198 lbs. per acre and 1.14 per tree over a whole estate, for 1906 and 1907 planting. The strength of the Association is 17 estates with a membership of 43 at the close of 1913. Subscriptions for 1913 are all in and the only outstandings are private subscriptions to the Planters' Benevolent Fund. This Fund, I am glad to say, has progressed more favourably during the past year than hitherto. A statement showing the amounts subscribed locally, since the inception of the scheme, is on the table and will be printed and circulated to members together with the minutes of this meeting. The accounts have again been audited by Mr. H. B. Kirk to whom the thanks of the Association are due. The balance sheet is being printed and will be circulated in due course. During the year there have been four general meetings and eight Committee meetings and the average attendance must be a source of satisfaction to the officials of the Association.

THE SCIENTIFIC OFFICER SCHEME.

Last year I announced that the scheme approached completion but since then several estates have withdrawn and we have had to drop the idea of employing a Scientific Assistant of our own. In November we received a visit from Mr. R. D. Anstead, who made the suggestion to us that we should form a Rubber Growers' Association in South India. This idea met with approval and Secretaries of other South Indian Associations interested in rubber have been written to. At the next meeting of these Associations the question will be discussed and much may come of it. The Travancore Government was asked if there was any possibility of the establishment of a Scientific Officer on the State Experimental Plot at Malayattoor but replied in the negative. The Government, however, has in their service an officer trained in agriculture whose professional advice is available to the planting community.

FINANCE.

The question of disposing of Rs. 2,500 surplus funds of the Association, resulted in that sum being voted towards the erection of a planters' hall. From this a scheme has arisen about which Mr. Kirk will speak to you later on at this meeting.

LABOUR COMMISSION.

In August last we were very ably represented at Bangalore by Mr. Ashton Hammond. The outstanding feature of the meeting was the question of establishing a Labour Commission. Those of you who have read the "Planters' Chronicle" will know the position at present. Locally only one estate representing 1,023 acres has definitely joined the Commission. The subject is on the agenda at this meeting, and the Chairman will also, no doubt, have something to say on the matter.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

MR. G. H. DANVERS DAVY said:—"Gentlemen, since our last general meeting a great number of subjects of the greatest interest to your Association have been dealt with. Our Hon. Secretary has given us a thorough and most interesting résumé of the work done by the Association, so I trust you will be lenient with me and forgive me if my report is short. Nothing serious has happened that I have heard of. I would now like to make a few remarks regarding our products of rubber and tea in our district. I trust you will admit they are both in a flourishing condition. Our prices for our rubber have equalled those of Ceylon and the F.M.S. and crop figures per acre have been collected by our Hon. Secretary and prove very interesting indeed. A report of the Scientific Officer Committee was read at the meeting held on November 8th, 1913, and on this subject Mr. Anstead suggested that it would be a good thing for South India to have a combined Rubber Growers' Association and that this Association should obtain the services of a good man as Assistant to the proposed Mycologist in Bangalore. Our Hon. Secretary has written to the other Associations of South India asking for their support. You are all acquainted with the fact that there is to be a Rubber Exhibition in London this year. Is South India going to make a show? The Straits and Ceylon are sending in large exhibits, and it is quite impossible to think that South India is not coming up to the scratch.

LABOUR COMMISSION.

Another subject which I think is of the greatest importance to us, as a Planting Community, is the Labour Commission. This Association has given its views on the subjects but I am of the opinion that we shall have to change our decision. I feel certain that the Labour Commission will, in the course of the next few months, be an accomplished fact; that we shall have to join it in self-defence. I know well I am ploughing a lonely furrow but neither Ceylon nor the Straits will leave a stone unturned and the sooner we get our house in order the better for us. At present the outlook, as regards our Labour Force, is very rosy, but I fear what may be in store for us in the future. Let us accept, in the

best of spirits, the old adage, 'There is safety in numbers.' As far as I can see the only reason against the Labour Commission is the sound reason that we have no law of extradition in Travancore. I may be wrong; but this might be got over without accepting Act No. 1 by having our agreements written both in Travancore and in British Territory. Anyhow we cannot be worse off than we are now. I would press upon you the desirability of joining the Commission and, I trust, you all, who have the welfare of your Estate so much at heart, will reconsider your decision. In conclusion I thank you all for the support you have given me during the year. My thanks are particularly due to the members of the Committee and to Mr. Harley who acted as Chairman so ably in my place during my absence in England and to Mr. E. Vincent, as Honorary Secretary, for the excellent work he has done for the Association. In conclusion, Gentlemen, I have to thank you for the support you have given me as your Chairman during the past year and now beg to place my resignation in your hands."

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1914.

The election of office-bearers for 1914 resulted as follows:—Chairman, Mr. H. B. Kirk; Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. R. Vincent; Honorary Secretary Mr. Edwin Vincent General Committee:—Messrs. R. Harley, J. J. Murphy, G. H. Danvers Davy, Eric Hall and W. A. Asher.

THE LABOUR COMMISSION.

MR. RICHARDSON said: "Gentlemen, I do not know that I can add much to what I have already said on the Labour Commission Scheme. Since our last meeting the Executive Committee have met at Ootacamund and you will all have seen the result of that meeting. It is most encouraging to find that the Kanan Devan Hills Company has decided to join in the Scheme and hand over their entire labour recruiting system to the new Commission on certain conditions. The cost I know seems high, more especially to a district like this which is well supplied with labour at present, but as was pointed out at our last meeting the expenditure must be looked on as an insurance for the future and I am quite convinced that the time will come here, as it has elsewhere, under favourable circumstances to start with, when we will require help. I don't believe anyone, present, in his inmost mind believes that the present happy state of affairs is going to continue *ad lib*. It is simply our selfish way of looking at things which, I am sorry to say, is becoming proverbial of the South Indian Planter. They look at nothing beyond the narrow limits of their estate or district sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof' is our motto, 'live for the present and let our successors look to the future, our line of action. As I can say is if any of us have to retire in the near future and possibly join the boards of home Companies with a view to enjoying a well-earned rest we will have a sorry time. I think that time our shareholders will have awakened to the fact that labour means every thing to the planting industry, that in many cases large amounts standing in the books in the name of advances are not worth the pen and ink they are written with and we as the Managers of the time will be he

responsible, and I think justly so, if we refuse to support the Labour Commission of Southern India. If we refuse it can only be from selfish motives. If our Association was made up of a large number of private proprietors I would not be so surprised, but with companies responsible for other people's money it seems to me we are taking a very heavy responsibility on our shoulders without sufficiently weighing the results. I speak not only as a manager but as one who has a large stake in the planting industry of Southern India. I would propose that this Association put the matter once more before the Proprietors and Directors of Companies and impress on them the necessity of carefully considering the question of joining the Labour Commission Scheme. That although at the present moment labour is plentiful the expenditure must be looked on as an insurance for the future. In conclusion, gentlemen, I would ask you to weigh the matter carefully and appoint one if not two Delegates to attend the meeting in Bangalore and keep your Proprietors posted in what has taken place."

The CHAIRMAN supporting Mr. Richardson said he thought that local planters would have to reconsider their decision. The meeting then went into Committee but after some discussion Mr. Richardson's proposal met with no support, and it was decided that to send a Delegate to the Bangalore meeting on March 4th was unnecessary.

Mr. Kirk read reports of the Hall-Fraser Memorial Fund which is now closed, and of the Mundakayam Library. The Memorial Fund accounts were handed over to the Honorary Secretary and Messrs. W. J. Milner, R. Ellis (Peermade) with Messrs. C. Martin and R. C. Milbank (Mundakayam) were elected as Library Committee for 1914.

PLANTERS' HALL.

Mr. Kirk reported progress and said that the money promised by local subscribers and Companies was sufficient to warrant proceedings with the building on Mr. Harley's plan. The original Building Committee was elected to proceed with the work, Mr. R. C. Milbank filling the vacancy caused by Mr. B. M. Behr, who has left the district.

At this juncture Mr. Kirk took the chair and after expressing his appreciation of the honour the Association had done him in electing him as Chairman for the ensuing year, proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman and to Mr. R. Harley, who acted in Mr. Davy's absence, and to the Honorary Secretary, which were carried.

The next meeting will take place on May 2nd, 1914, and it was announced that Mr. J. J. Murphy would be glad to be present at his Bungalow on that day.

It was decided to invite Mr. S. C. H. Robinson and Mr. Alex. Slater to become honorary members of the Association.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. Eric Hall for his hospitality.

H. B. KIRK,
Chairman.

EDWARD VINCENT,
Hon. Secretary.

CHILAW DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Chilaw District Planters' Association was held at the Resthouse, Chilaw, on Monday, the 9th February, preceded by a Committee Meeting held an hour earlier. Mr. N. J. Martin, Chairman, presided. The others present were:—Mr. Leon d'Espagnac, Mr. C. E. Corea, Dr. Jas. A. Ernest Corea, Messrs. A. R. Panditasekera, A. R. Ekanayaka, J. Schrader, J. G. Schrader, N. Modder, V. J. Cooke, A. R. Koch, L. Bertram Martin, Chas. A. Peries, C. E. Victor Corea, W. A. Coradine (visitor), and O. B. M. Cheyne, Hon. Secretary.

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting the fourth annual report of the Chilaw Planters' Association. Three general and three Committee Meetings were held during the year. There were 43 members on the register at the end of the year, being the same number as at the end of 1912. The balance of funds at the credit of the Association on 31st December, 1913, is Rs. 122.65 as against a balance of Rs. 72.75 at the end of last year.

CROPS.—The harvest during the year have been exceptionally good throughout the district in spite of the severe drought experienced during the months of August and September when several estates actually lost bearing palms killed by the dry weather. Nuts have been of a very satisfactory size, turning out on an average about 1,100 to a candy of copra.

PRICES, both of nuts and copra have been excellent, the former realising from Rs. 75 to Rs. 87.50 per 1,000 ex. estates, while the latter starting at about Rs. 86.50 per candy in January touched Rs. 95 in March and April and reached the maximum of Rs. 107 in August; from September till the end of the year prices averaged from Rs. 103 to Rs. 98.50 per candy.

DESICCATED COCONUT.—This product experienced a record year both in quantity and value. The price naturally moves in sympathy with copra and desiccated coconut therefore obtained a better price than usual, though not quite to the same extent as copra, as the market happened to be very quiet just when copra was at its highest.

FIBRE was also an active trade during 1913 and obtained very satisfactory prices. Prospects for 1914 are generally considered to be good although it is not expected to obtain quite such large crops as during 1913. The markets for all coconut products are declining at present, but, with the exception of bristle fibre, which is being overproduced, your Committee does not think that the future need give anyone cause for anxiety. The mere fact that several estates have sold forward their copra for 1914 at Rs. 95 per candy proves that the demand for coconut products is increasing.

DISEASE AND PESTS have not been at all serious in this district, in fact the palms have on the whole been remarkably free from either.

LABOUR is a question of importance here as in other planting districts, and with the opening up of the Indo-Ceylon Railway connection it is hoped that more Tamil coolies may be induced to work on coconut estates.

RAILWAY.—Good Progress was made with the Negombo-Chilaw extension, but the work has been considerably retarded by the damage to culverts, bridges and embankments during the heavy floods in October. It is expected that the line will be ready and open to traffic by about April, 1915, provided that there is no unforeseen delay.

(due to strikes in England or other causes) in the delivery of the steel-work of the new bridges.

ROADS.—Some improvement is noticed in the condition of the main roads as compared with 1912, although your Committee is of opinion that if better metal and more of it were used they could be brought into still better condition, and it is understood that as soon as possible good metal from the Ragama quarries will be brought up by train and used on the main roads instead of the soft sandstone at present quarried on the sea beach. The District Engineer is to be congratulated on the able way in which he has overcome the many difficulties he has had to contend with, especially as regards the floods and washaways in January and October of 1913. The minor roads, your Committee regrets to state, show little or no improvement; in fact in some places they are in worse condition than they were in 1912. It is understood that this is due to scarcity of labour and that the new Superintendent of Minor Roads is doing his best under the circumstances. Your Committee also understands that there is a probability of the P. W. D. taking over the following minor roads:—Nathaudiya-Dunkanawa and Undawewe-Lankotuwa, while the Lunuvile-Bolawatte road is already in their hands. It is hoped that Government will not delay over these most important works.

HOSPITAL.—Your Committee regret to state that the new hospital for Chilaw which was promised in 1912 has not even been commenced, in fact the site has not yet been acquired, owing to some delay in purchasing the land. This is much to be regretted, especially as the price of land in the neighbourhood of Chilaw town is increasing by leaps and bounds with the advent of the railway and your Committee consider that the attention of Government, in this most important matter, should be more forcibly drawn to this vexatious delay.

EXPERIMENTAL STATION.—The Original site chosen on Millicent Estate has been abandoned owing to the Puttalam railway trace running through it, and the experiments in dry farming and cultivation are now to be carried on in another portion of Millicent Estate. It is to be hoped that this station will be widely advertised so that all those who are interested in coconuts and their cultivation may know of it and have an opportunity of visiting it.

GENERAL.—Your Committee wishes to express the sense of great loss to the Colony by the death of Mr. John Ferguson, C.M.G. With respect to the food supply to labourers which is agitating the minds of so many Associations, your Committee express the hope that the Agricultural Society will take up the suggestion of the cultivation of paddy in the Chilaw district. Your Committee also wishes to draw the attention of the authorities to the unfairness of levying a water-tax from the proprietors of the Madampe-Mahawela fields even in the years when no water is given out to the said fields. The proprietors have been compelled to pay up by a threat of selling the fields of defaulters.

The congratulations of the Association were conveyed to Sir Edward Rosling, the late planting member in Council, on the occasion of his long honoured by H. M. the King with a Knighthood.

O. B. M. CHEYNE,

Hon. Secretary.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said that he ought to congratulate them on the position the Association held in the country today. The Association had been a power in the land. They no longer begged

of Government but they found that Government was consulting them with regard to what they should do. They would observe that the Assistant Government Agent asked them whether they would support the establishment of a Telegraph Office at Wennappuwa. He thought it was a matter for congratulation that they were what they were today. With regard to the report—the fourth—they had 43 members at present, but really the number was greater as they elected four members that day making the total 47. Regarding the subscriptions the Secretary had told them there were a few subscriptions not come in yet. So that the total would be more than Rs. 22.65 as appeared in the report. He had no doubt that it would be closer to Rs. 200 than to Rs. 100. With regard to the crops he was of opinion that they had occasion to congratulate themselves that the past year had been such an extremely good year for coconuts, both in prices as well as in produce. The report showed that the next year's crops must be as good. The January-February crop had already been more than the crop of the similar period of 1913, and as the Secretary said for the first three months it would exceed the crops of 1913. In the long run he did not think they would lose. With regard to the prices those for 1913 had been exceptional and this had been a record-breaking year going up to Rs. 107 per candy which was perfectly correct. It was believed in some quarters that the prices might go down. It was believed that Messrs. Finlay & Co. sold Nellukuliya as prices were expected to go down, but there were people who knew better, and Messrs. de Zoysa and de Silva rushed in to buy the land at incredible prices because they knew what was going to happen. In fact, the crops for 1914 had already been bought for Rs. 95. Prices might go higher up. Regarding his estates of which he was managing director "The Martin Estates," he was wired twice with offers at Rs. 95 for the crop. He declined feeling that Rs. 95 would not be the true price of copra for the coming year. He was told that he was mistaken and that he ought to have accepted the offer. It was clear that he was not mistaken from the fact that long after the sales were closed he was approached again a fortnight ago whether he would close for 2,000 candies at Rs. 95. That clearly showed that the people who handled the business and who were the know were aware of the true state of things. Last year it was even lower at the beginning and it went as low as Rs. 89. They had no need for misgivings about the price of copra for the current year which he hoped would tend to be closer to Rs. 100 than Rs. 95. With regard to diseases and pests they felt very thankful that the district had been peculiarly free from pests and diseases of the coconut. He was of opinion that no one in the district was aware of any serious damage or heard anything about it. With regard to labour it was a very serious matter. The labour trouble, he feared, was a serious point they had to consider. Labour was becoming scarce and scarce and the Tamil cooly was gradually leaving them. They had a good many, but at present mostly there was village labour. They should encourage villagers as much as possible. They would advise them to improve village labour.

making them more comfortable, and they would find labour coming more freely. Personally he employed village labour, and encouraged them. The Sinhalese village labourer should be given better houses to live and his salary should be raised. On his own estate he paid him 40 cents a day, and when they were allowed to do contract work they earned a rupee a day at times. They could not depend on Tamil labour. They could not do that with any success in the Chilaw District, in the years to come, because all Tamils were going away to rubber and tea estates, where perhaps the salaries might be increased to 3s. 1d; when that figure was reached they would lose all their Tamil labour. After careful observation he found it was advisable to employ Sinhalese workmen on estates regularly. They should be given good food, clean rice from Colombo, and not let boutique-keepers swindle them; pay them weekly or monthly and labour would come in more readily than in the past. There was no question that the Chilaw railway would pay Government "hand over first." The Negombo line, it was said, would not pay. It was paying now. The Chilaw line would pay more than the Negombo line or even the Kalutara line. In Chilaw District the people were not absolutely poor. Everybody possessed something. They were in the centre of a flourishing coconut industry. The ordinary people in Chilaw were sufficiently wealthy to travel by train. There was one other point on which they had to warn Government. There should be sufficient accommodation at the station to take in large quantities of copra that was bound to come to the station for transport, and also to make it easy for the disposal of the copra at the other end. Fears had been entertained by several proprietors who own large estates, and were deeply interested in the coconut industry and the railway, with regard to copra, that sufficient accommodation would not be provided at the other end. One or two gentlemen in Colombo put the matter before him (the speaker) and it did appear a serious matter. In the case of the bulk of the people copra when sent by train would have to wait in Colombo for some time. There were serious objections to that. First there were thefts and the price of copra was high enough to tempt a man to secure a few pounds and by the sale to secure a meal for two or three days. They must try to avoid thefts and also watch that copra be not kept too long for it would get spoilt. They should ask Government to make arrangement at the other end and start work now, so that by the time the railway is open, a year or eighteen months hence, sufficient accommodation for the copra and quick disposal of same from the station would be provided. Otherwise people would begin to fight shy of the railway, and Government would ask them where their promises had gone to. They were thankful that the railway had come. It would do a lot of good for the Country. In its train it would bring some disadvantages no doubt, but in the long run Chilaw would have nothing to lose by it. There seemed to be some hesitation and he heard it said in certain quarters that the railway would not be carried on right through to Puttalam. In that case it would be a great pity for more reasons than one.

Several large estates in North Chilaw send their copra to Colombo right through by paddaboot. Estate owners there would not bring copra by boat to Chilaw and then to the train. It would be very expensive and inconvenient and involve delay. Nobody would do so especially when the canal between Chilaw and Colombo was better than that portion of it from Puttalam, and having negotiated the worst part of the canal, it was

NOT LIKELY THEY WOULD ABANDON THE CANAL

and send the copra by train from Chilaw. Any way it would be a great mistake on the part of Government for most of that traffic would not come into the railway. They had stopped at Chilaw. They got the staff ready, the material and plant to carry out the work. This year if they stopped the work, the result would be that the staff and men would go to some other part, like Ratnapura, Pelmadulla, Badulla, Bandarawella, and it would be years before they could re-start. Taking those aspects of the case he thought it was a great mistake on the part of the Government to stop the railway at Chilaw, even for a number of years. He would ask Government as soon as the building of the Chilaw railway was complete and traffic allowed, that they should

CONTINUE THE LINE TO PUTTALAM.

It was a matter for serious consideration.

With regard to other matters, they had just heard the District Engineer tell them that certain roads were going to be taken over by the P.W.D. It was a great folly that big roads on which there was heavy traffic should be in charge of the D.R.C. He was glad to hear that some roads were being taken over and thus relieve the D.R.C. from a very great responsibility. He had no doubt that in time the D.R.C. roads would be brought into the position they were in some ten years ago when people could drive about in any kind of vehicle with safety. With regard to the Hospital at Chilaw they would remember that many years ago Government had arranged to buy in Chilaw town a most desirable spot for a hospital, but because the price was high it was abandoned. Land was required and in fact agreements were drawn up and money deposited, but cancelled and withdrawn. The older members of the Association would remember the Association passed a resolution to acquire that very bit as a fine and acceptable

SITE FOR A HOSPITAL.

Had it been acquired two or three years ago Government could have taken it for much less than Rs. 2,000. It was not a question of money, for the Ceylon Government was not absolutely poor; it was only a matter of four acres at three or four thousand. The land at present was expensive though most desirable for a hospital. There was no use mincing matters at all. They had to buy that place at once and build the hospital. He believed that when the resolution reached the hands of the Colonial Secretary he would be able to tell them that the land had been acquired. He hoped the

Government would not hesitate a minute more about it. With regard to the labour question, his friend Mr. Corea had referred to the question of

PADDY CULTIVATION

in Chilaw. It surprised him very much that the Agricultural Society had not taken up that question. In Chilaw they had large paddy fields. In the methods of cultivation could be improved, as they undoubtedly could be, an experiment station in the district could be established and they should not hesitate a moment. Better methods of cultivation would improve the food supply, and, if that were done, half the battle would be won with regard to labour. They would get cheaper food. As it was the cooly had to work for six days earning 40 cents a day to feed himself, but if food were cheaper he would have enough money saved. The Agricultural Department, as they were aware, had opened an experimental station for coconut. Regarding

THE LATE MR. JOHN FERGUSON.

he said that it was a happy idea of Mr. Corea to refer to his honourable connection with the Colony which had sustained a loss which it could ill afford. He had been a true gentleman and had done his best for the country of his adoption. He was loved by everybody—the people of this country as well as of his own. When Ceylon heard of his death they really felt that a true friend of Ceylon had passed away. Government of course had made him a C.M.G. He did not know of anybody who was better entitled to a knighthood than Mr. Ferguson. Any way it was not a question for them to decide. All they could say was that Ceylon would always remember him in anything they had to do with the coconut industry or any other in Ceylon. He always took the most serious view and did his best to further the products and interests of the Colony, both in his writings and in his speeches wherever he went. (Applause.) The Chairman then moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. LEON D'ESPAGNAC seconded.—Carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

Mr. LEON D'ESPAGNAC occupied the chair *pro tem* and proceeded with the election of office-bearers for 1914.

Mr. C. E. COREA moved that Mr. Martin be re-elected Chairman as there could be no question as to his capabilities.

Mr. D'ESPAGNAC seconded.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. COREA said that the same principle applied in the case of the Secretary and they could do no better than re-elect Mr. Cheyne as Secretary.

Mr. C. V. COREA seconded.—Carried.

Mr. MARTIN resumed his seat and bowed his thanks. Mr. Cheyne also acknowledged his compliment.

COMMITTEE FOR 1914.

Mr. C. V. COREA proposed the following Committee:—The Chairman, the Hon. Secretary and Messrs. C. A. Pieris, Roland Pandittesekera, L. B. Martin, C. E. Victor Corea,

F. B. Tamel, C. E. Corea, Leon d'Espagnac, and Victor Cooke.

KANDY COMMITTEE.

The following were elected to represent the Association at the Parent Association at Kandy.—The Chairman, the Hon. Secretary and Mr. C. E. Corea.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated at 7 p.m.

MORAWAK KORALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Twelfth Annual General Meeting of the above Association was held at the Deniyaya Resthouse at 9 a.m., on Tuesday, the 10th February, 1914. Present: Messrs T. W. Oliver, M. S. Furlong, W. A. Elwell, D. M. Rajapakse, E. C. Anderson, and W. M. Wade-Gery (Chairman and Hon. Secretary).

Notice calling the meeting was read, and the minutes of the last general meeting were confirmed.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Read letter from Messrs. C. P. Hayley & Co. on this subject, informing the Association that steps were being taken towards the formation of a Company, and that they hoped to have some definite news within a week or so.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

Mr. T. W. OLIVER brought up the subject of linking up the different estates in the district by telephone, and asked what support would be given.

After some discussion, it was proposed by Mr. W. A. ELWELL, and seconded by Mr. M. S. FURLONG that Mr. T. W. Oliver and the Chairman be appointed to go into the matter, and that they formulate a scheme to be presented at the next meeting.—Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Chairman, R.C., intimating that the Resthouse at Deniyaya had now been furnished with full supply of kitchen utensils, lamps, linen, etc.

Read letter re Coast Agency Cess. Proposed by Mr. T. W. OLIVER and seconded by Mr. W. A. ELWELL that the proposed raising of the Cess resolution be withdrawn from the agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the Parent Association and brought up again for discussion in a year's time.—Carried.

Read letter re subscribers to the Coast Agency. It was pointed out that the Secretary of the Parent Association could make enquiries from the District Associations in cases referred to in his letter.

Read letter from the Assistant Government Agent Matara, re the liquor shop license at Deniyaya. As the letter was merely an acknowledgment of the letter written

by the Hon. Secretary, it was resolved that the Hon. Secretary be instructed to write again and press for a definite answer regarding the renewal of the license.

Read letter from the Hon. Secretary, K.S.R. Committee. A subscription list was passed round and well responded to.

Read letter from the S.P.C.A. re the appointment of an Hon. Agent for the Society in the Morawak Korale district. It was intimated that Mr. T. W. Oliver had consented to take up the duties of same, and general satisfaction was expressed.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that he and another member of the Association had seen the coach start from Deniyaya that morning, and that one of the horses had a collar sore some two inches in length, and one inch across, and that another sore was forming.

It was understood that the coach contract was expiring at the end of this month, and that a motor service would replace same, but it was hoped that the S.P.C.A. would take special steps towards preventing cruelty to the horses for the short remaining period.

Read correspondence from the Superintendent of Kurulugalla estate re joining the Association.

MORAWAK KORALE RESTHOUSE.

Several members complained of the condition of the Morawak Korale Resthouse, and it was resolved that the Hon. Secretary be instructed to write to the Chairman, P.R.C., bringing same to his notice.

JURY SERVICE.

The CHAIRMAN informed the members present that he had been informed that the usual May sessions of the Supreme Court at Matara were not to be held at Matara this year. (Loud Applause).

HARBOURING BOLTERS.

The Superintendent of Campden Hill informed the members present that, in accordance with the resolution passed at the last general meeting, he had instituted proceedings against the Superintendent of Palligama estate, for harbouring and employing a bolter cooly. He told them that the advocate for the defence, had, however, on the date fixed for trial, approached him and asked for an amicable settlement. The defence offered to tender a written apology to the Association, pay all legal and private expenses in connection with this case, and give an undertaking not to repeat the offence. This he had accepted and now read to the members present the statement as follows:—

Matara,
February 7th, 1914.

TO THE CHAIRMAN,
Morawak Korale Planters' Association.

DEAR SIR,
With regard to the cooly woman, Akoni, who happened to be employed by a man who had a clearing contract from me, I desire to

express regret that she should have been so employed. I undertake to do all in my power to prevent any bolters from the estates of your Association from being employed on my estates and to give all assistance in tracing them.

A. A. W. RATNAYAKA.

This met with the approval of all present, and the superintendent was thanked for the trouble he had taken over the matter.

ACCOUNTS.

Audited accounts for 1913 were laid on the table and passed.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual report was as follows:—

Number of estates on register	8
Private members	0

MEETINGS.—5 General and 1 Committee, all of which have been well attended.

ESTIMATES OF CROP FOR 1914.—1,898,400 lbs. estate tea from 3,609½ acres in bearing, being an estimated yield of 525 lbs. per acre and 245,000 lbs. from native gardens. Total 2,143,400 lbs. tea. Estimated rubber crop, 84,700 lbs. Estimated cardamon crop, 2,000 lbs. Estimated tea crops for 1913 were somewhat short of estimates, owing to climatic conditions, but the prices realized were satisfactory. Estimated rubber crops for 1913 were, however, exceeded.

WEATHER.—The rainfall for the year has been below the average. It was satisfactory to note, however, that this district had escaped from the floods that were so disastrous to other districts.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.—Considerable progress has been made in this direction. At first sanction was given by Government for the running of motor-lorries with a weight of 1½ tons per axle including weight of lorry. This was shortly afterwards raised to 1½ tons per axle. Towards the end of the year the Matara-Deniyaya and the Deniyaya-Hayes roads were proclaimed in the "Gazette" as being open to motor-lorries being run in compliance with the Ordinance without restrictions. Considerable progress has been made on the Matara-Deniyaya road in the way of making crossing places. It is understood that these are to be made every quarter mile. At present only one lorry, owned by an estate in this district, is being run, but a Company is being formed to run lorries at an early date to serve the whole district.

LABOUR.—A good number of coolies have come in from the Coast. The health of the coolies has been on the whole good. A fair amount of minor illnesses such as fever and ulcers has been prevalent.

TRANSPORT.—During the early portion of the year transport got into a bad state, and very much behind. Rates were raised on an understanding that there should be an improvement and since then the transport has improved.

PESTS.—The District has been free from pests, there has however been a certain amount of Helopeltis on several estates.

RICE.—The price of rice during the year has been very high, and with the cost of transport added to same, considerable loss has been sustained by all estates.

EXCISE.—It is much regretted by the Association that during the year a license was granted for the sale of foreign liquors at Deniyaya. Correspondence has passed between this Association and Government and it is hoped that Government will refuse the renewal of the license for the coming year.

RESTHOUSE.—As a result of agitation, the Deniyaya Resthouse has been brought up-to-date, and supplied with a good Resthouse Keeper. It is hoped that the present Resthouse Keeper will not be moved away for some time, for although the Resthouse is in an out-of-the-way District, it is an important one, and therefore requires a good keeper.

FINANCE.—There is a credit balance of Rs. 71.05. The accounts have been audited by Mr. E. C. Anderson.

The report was adopted unanimously.

HOSPITAL VISITORS' REPORT FOR 1913.

Messrs. W. A. Anderson and W. M. Wade-Gery having been appointed Visitors to the Deniyaya Hospital for the year 1913, beg to submit their report as follows:—

VISITS.—During the year the Hospital was visited on four occasions.

STAFF.—D.M.O., Apothecary, Matron, and usual ward attendants.

WARDS.—These were found clean, airy, and not overcrowded. The average number of patients in hospital at the time of the visits averaged Males 24, Females 18 or a total average of 42.

DISPENSARY AND OPERATING THEATRE.—These both appear to be in perfect order and well equipped.

KITCHENS.—Clean, and food of good quality and well cooked.

BATH ROOMS AND LATRINES.—Clean and in good order.

W. A. ANDERSON.

SURROUNDINGS.—In first rate order and well kept.

W. M. WADE-GERY.

Hospital Visitors.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1914.

CHAIRMAN, in vacating the Chair, thanked the members present for their suggestions and regular attendance at meetings during the year.

Mr. E. C. ANDERSON, having been voted to the Chair temporarily, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman for his services during the past year (which was carried unanimously) and, in a short speech, proposed the re-election of Mr. W. M. Wade-Gery as Chairman and Hon. Secretary. This was seconded by Mr. M. S. Furlong, and passed unanimously.

Mr. WADE-GERY in resuming the Chair, thanked the members for re-electing him and said that he hoped that he would be able to give them the same satisfaction as he had done during the past year.

COMMITTEE.—All Superintendants of Estates in the Association were placed on the Committee.

MEMBERS OF THE KANDY COMMITTEE.—The Chairman and Mr. W. A. Elwell.

BENEVOLENT FUND COMMITTEE.—The Chairman and Mr. T. W. Oliver.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—The Chairman and Mr. W. A. Anderson.

S.P.C.A. HON. AGENT FOR THE DISTRICT.—Mr. T. W. Oliver.

This being all the business the Meeting terminated with a hearty hearty vote of thanks to the Chair.

W. M. WADE-GERY,
Hon. Secretary, M.K.P.A.

URUGALLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of proceedings of the Urugalla Planters' Association Meeting, held at the Delpotonoya Factory on Monday, the 9th February. Mr. Wyndham F. Baker presided. Present:—Mr. J. P. Burke, Mr. M. V. Rauthar, by proxy Mr. P. C. MacMahon and Mr. C. Sealy as visitor, Mr. R. C. H. Ellis wrote to say that he was unable to attend.

Before proceeding with other matters, the **CHAIRMAN** proposed that a letter of condolence be sent to Mr. Spencer Shelley on the death of his wife. This was passed in silence all standing.

RICE.

The **CHAIRMAN** said this matter was being thoroughly investigated by a sub-Committee, and pointed out that he himself had used Rangoon rice for over 6 months, and found it had done the coolies no harm. There was a saving in the price from a rupee to fifty cents a bushel. The coolies at first demurred, but now seem to have taken to it. Shot-hole borer has been bad in the district, but by turning prunings, etc., is better than formerly.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

It is to be hoped this Association will support this fund as much as possible.

Proposed by Mr. BURKE, and seconded by Mr. P. C. MACMAHON (by proxy), that a member of the C.S.P.C.A. be asked to visit the District as cruelty to cart-bulls is very prevalent, and at present there is nobody to prevent it.

Proposed by the **CHAIRMAN** that the Rural Member's campaign against "cardamon thefts" should be supported, and that it be brought under the Cocoa Theft Ordinance, as cardamom thefts are of frequent occurrence.

Mr. BURKE proposed, and Mr. RAUTHAR seconded, that Mr. Baker should continue to act as Chairman and Hon. Secretary for the coming year. Mr. Baker consented to do so until Mr. P. C. MacMahon's return.

WYNDHAM F. BAKER,
Hon. Secretary.

GALLE DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The first general meeting of the Galle District Planters' Association for 1914 was held in the New Oriental Hotel at 2 p.m. on Monday, February 16th. There were present Messrs. C. G. Simmonds, Chas. Northway, S. H. Titley, M. Lindstrom, F. Vogel, A. W. Winter, E. D. Bowman, Mrs. Bowman, Messrs. F. Griffiths, B. de G. Mourand, J. Sirimane, H. R. Colquhoun, Whitfield (visitor) and H. Scott, Hon. Secretary.

In the absence of Mr. M. J. Alderson Mr. Simmonds took the chair, having been proposed by Mr. S. H. TITLEY and seconded by Mr. GRIFFITHS.

The Hon. SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. Alderson stating that his absence was unavoidable and requesting Simmonds to act for him.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been circulated were taken as read and with the exception of one item, which was corrected, were confirmed. The item was with regard to the Galle Hospital. Mr. Simmonds said he was sorry to have said that owing to the Galle P.A. the hospital had been rebuilt. What he had said was that it had been improved and renovated.

DOCTOR FOR ELPITIYA.

The CHAIRMAN then read the following letter from the P.C.M.O.

MEDICAL OFFICER FOR ELPITIYA.

Colombo, February 11th, 1914.

Hon. SECRETARY,
Galle District P.A.,
Katandola, Elpitiya.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the instant and to inform you that a fairly commodious house or offices would be required for a Medical Officer at Elpitiya.

(2.) In this connection I would refer you to letter dated the 11th ultimo addressed to the Provincial Surgeon, S.P., by the Superintendent of Deviturai Estate, Ambalangoda (copy enclosed) in which he says that two suitable houses are available each at Rs. 10 per mensem.

I am, &c.,
G. J. RUTHERFORD,
for P.C.M.O.

(Copy referred to.)

Deviturai, Ambalangoda,
January 29th, 1914.

PROVINCIAL SURGEON,
S. P., Galle.

In reply to your letter re accommodation for Medical Officer—there is a nice building near the 8th mile post, rent Rs. 10 a month and was occupied by Mr. Enright for several months and is commodious; another building is available at the 9th mile post also at a rent of Rs. 10 per month. The District Medical Officer can pick one whichever he prefers. Both are central.

Yours, &c.,
CHAS. NORTHWAY,

GARAGE AT THE COURT.

The following motion of which Mr. M. J. Alderson had given notice was then read by the Secretary:—

"That the Honourable the Government Agent be approached with a request to have a garage and stable erected at the Balapitiya Court for the convenience of those attending for cases."

Mr. NORTHWAY in seconding, said he thought it would be a very good plan and great convenience. At present one has to leave his car on the road. The Court was three miles from the nearest rest-house.

Mr. SCOTT said there was not even a place to shelter a horse. He strongly supported the motion.—Passed.

NEW MEMBERS.

The CHAIRMAN said he was glad to announce the addition of four new members to the Association and he accorded them a cordial welcome. The new members are Messrs. Coates & Co., Sunnyside Estate (Mr. O. de Vos), Mapalagama and Galinda Estates (Mr. Erskine).

TELEGRAPHIC EXTENSION.

The question of a telegraph or telephone between Ambalangoda and Elpitiya was another motion of which Mr. Alderson had given notice and was brought up by the Hon. Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN enquired whether Elpitiya would be central.

Mr. SCOTT said it would be, and it was just the spot for an exchange.

Mr. NORTHWAY said he would second the motion if it was for the telegraph.

Mr. SIRIMANE was of the same opinion.

Mr. WINTER thought Baddegama should be served also. At present telegrams were not sent by the messengers beyond three miles.

Mrs. BOWMAN said that she had spoken to Mr. Pagden (when he was P.M.G.) about not sending telegrams beyond three miles but nothing had been done. Recently one of her telegrams was 4½ hours in reaching her. She thought cycle messengers might be sent.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Udugama-Baddegama telegraph had been sanctioned.

Mr. WINTER asked whether till the extensions and improvements were effected, could not messengers on cycles take the telegrams? Everyone, he was sure, would pay the charge if they got the messages quick.

It was resolved that application be made that Elpitiya, Udugama and Baddegama be served with the telegraph.

ROADS.

Mr. C. NORTHWAY proposed that the Association write to the Hon. the Government Agent enquiring when the Ambalangoda-Elpitiya road was to be handed over to the Public Works Department. The Chairman thought it had been settled to hand over the road.

Mr. NORTHWAY said that was so, and he suggested writing, as some persons were waiting to put motor lorries on the road.

It was resolved that the Hon. Secretary do write to the Government Agent.

Mr. GRIFFITHS said that since the last meeting he was pleased to say that the heaps of metal and stumps of trees complained of had all been removed.

The CHAIRMAN said he was glad to hear this. It showed that the Association was doing some good. The Government deserved their thanks.

Upon the motion of Mr. GRIFFITHS the meeting passed a vote of thanks to the Government for their prompt action in removing the obstacles from the roads.

BRIDGES.

A PRIMITIVE MAKESHIFT.

Mr. WINTER said that two bridges which had been washed away by the storm on the 16th December, 1913, had not been replaced by even temporary bridges. The place was near Mamadola. He had to use the road frequently, but had not been able to do so since the storm.

Mr. MOURANT said that four arecanut trees had been placed over the stream where the bridge stood and hackeries were dragged over.

It was resolved that the attention of the authorities be drawn to the matter.

AN UNINTELLIGIBLE RULE.

Mr. WINTER asked whether the Chairman or any member would give him the correct explanation of the Association's rule 16 which read as follows: "That no member of this Association shall take on any notice cooly coming from any other estate in this District. And no member shall take on notice coolies from other districts unless he be prepared to pay their debts to their previous employers."

The CHAIRMAN was sorry that he had to rule Mr. Winter out of order as he had not given notice. It was, he thought, a matter to be considered by the Committee.

Mr. WINTER said that as it stood he could not understand the rule. He gave notice that he would bring the matter up at the next meeting.

HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL AID.

The CHAIRMAN asked if anyone could explain the difference between an Estate Labourers' Hospital and a Civil Hospital. At Udugama the District Medical Officer spent much of his time attending to what he would call civil patients. The Planting Community, with the taxes and cess on their produce, mainly support the officer. He wished to know where the right of the planters began and where those of the civil patients ended.

Mr. WINTER said he knew a person who had to pay Rs. 125 to an unqualified apothecary for paying three visits in a case of confinement, three miles distant, and the man charged by Government regulations.

Mr. MOURANT said he believed there was a charge of Rs. 150 allowed in such cases.

Mr. WINTER asked where he would come in. He was far away.

Mr. SCOTT said he could come in under the Medical Wants' Ordinance.

Mr. GRIFFITHS suggested enquiring to what extent they could claim the doctor and what he was entitled to charge.

Mrs. BOWMAN said the Galle Hospital was understaffed as regards nurses. What was particularly needed was a night nurse.

The CHAIRMAN said that he did not know if any one present had the same experience—very often he got a notice that one of his coolies who was in hospital would be discharged, say on the 12th, while he would receive the notice on the 14th, two days after the cooly was discharged.

Several members present had had the same experience and they put it down to delay in posting.

Mr. MOURANT said that several coolies who had been discharged as cured come back to the estate no better than they were before going to the hospital.

DISEASED LABOURERS.

Mr. SIMMONDS said that there were certain climatic influences which tell on the cooly; also there were some diseases such as anaemia and dysentery which could never be cured, and in the case of such coolies all that remained to be done was to send them back to the coast.

Mr. VOGEL said he had coolies sent back from hospital who came to the estate only to die. If a cooly remained in hospital over 30 days the estate did not pay for him.

Mr. MOURANT thought the Salvation Army, which was doing such good work, might be asked to take over such cases as it took a long time to cure.

Mr. VOGEL asked why they should not be kept in hospital, Government paying half and the estate the other half of the cost.

Mr. SIMMONDS thought it best that the importation of sickly coolies be stopped by either the Ceylon or India Government.

Mr. VOGEL wished to know if anything could be done and the Chairman replied: "We should approach not the Government but the Parent Association." Recently when going out he saw a cooly woman lying on the road in the vicinity of Walahandua. As she appeared quite helpless he asked an old Sinhalese woman about her. This woman said the cooly had been lying there for three days or more and she had given her a little rice to eat off and on. He went on and called at the house of the Aratchy close by. The Aratchy was away in his fields but came on a message to see him. He asked him about the cooly and the Aratchy replied that he knew nothing. He then directed the Aratchy to fetch a cart and take the woman to the hospital.

CRICKET MATCH AND DINNER.

Mr. GRIFFITHS asked why these meetings should not be made more attractive. He suggested that on the next meeting day they should have a cricket match and dinner.

Mr. MOURANT proposed as an amendment that the match and dinner be held during the holidays at Sinhalese New Year.

Mr. GRIFFITHS said it was an excellent suggestion and he gave way.

The date has not been fixed, but a Committee will be appointed to arrange all details.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman proposed by Mr. GRIFFITHS and seconded by Mr. NORTHWAY.



The Planting Gazette

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

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[No. 3

Editorial Notes

The advances made by the sub-Committee appointed to consider the question of coolies' food supply in the direction of obtaining rice from Burma have been superficially disappointing. Apparently the Rangoon Millers have so ample and secure a market at present that the prospect of extending their trade in Ceylon does not attract them sufficiently to lead to an alteration of their manufacture to suit our coolies' taste. At first sight this seems rather a setback, but it is not at all impossible that it may turn out to be for our ultimate good and for the benefit of the Island generally. For it limits our field of action and so will serve to concentrate our energies on the production of more rice in this country. The discussion of any portion of the world's existing rice supply into our harbours could but prove a temporary palliative. The real remedy for the trouble caused by the high prices ruling being to increase the amount of rice produced. This appears quite obvious and it follows logically that the nearer to our market this increase is grown the more immediately it will benefit our coolies and ourselves. Ultimately therefore Ceylon will benefit more directly and in larger degree by increasing the area of rice lands in this Island than by stimulating an increase in Burma. All the factors for an advance in this direction exist except co-operation, and that must follow. We are betraying no secret when we state that His Excellency the Governor is most favourably inclined towards the project. The Director of Irrigation is equally optimistic. And as for capital to carry out the work there can be no doubt that it will be available just so soon as a workable scheme is put forward. On page 92 of the February number of this paper figures showing the loss to estates incurred by rice are given, and we have only to remind our readers that over two million rupees were lost in 1913 to indicate how certain it is that Capital must be forthcoming for any practical

experiment. It remains to discover how to take advantage of these circumstances. We believe that the remedy will be found in some form of co-operation among proprietors. And by the word proprietors we do not mean only happy plutocrats who own estates of their own, but the whole body of those who own shares in Companies, and the whole body of superintendents whose stake in the planting industry is proportionately more the less because although it yields a livelihood it has not yet yielded a surplus for investment. Co-operation does away with waste of profits on commissions to the too long chain of middlemen who now handle the rice. Moreover co-operation does not fear competition and cut rates, for co-operatives form their own market and do not require to reduce their rates in rivalry, as their higher rates, if these are necessitated, return to them eventually in the form of an increased dividend. There is a tremendous scope for co-operation in Ceylon and we hope to live to see it fulfilled. But, as in all things, it is the details that bother one. Fine dreams are easy to call up, and one needs no fairy's Wand to conjure up visions of vast spreading fields below the great tanks and channels in the old "King's Country" of the palmy days of Lanka, owned and managed by a co-operative society of rich and flourishing planters, and producing untold wealth of grain. But it is a very difficult matter to bring this to pass, though we think it could really be done. The members of the sub-Committee have not the time to work it all out. So it will have to start in a small way and grow in the wisdom of experience. Our object is to set planters thinking on co-operative lines and we would welcome any proposals and suggestions in our correspondence columns.

THE CHEMISTRY OF RUBBER.

A Review.

Under this title Messrs. Gurney and Jackson of 53, Farnoster Row, London, have produced a capital little book by Mr. B. D. Porritt, B.Sc. (London), F.I.C., who,

as Chief Chemist to the North British Rubber Company, is in every way competent to speak with authority on Rubber, at least after its arrival in the manufacturers' hands.

To those who have paid considerable sums for more elaborate treatises, the price (1s. 6d.) is not the least of its merits.

Rarely also has one to grumble at its brevity, although perhaps a little more space might have been devoted to the botanical and geographical sources of the commercial product, which are dismissed in little more than a dozen lines. It is not every working chemist or, for the matter of that, working planter that knows that the Hevea Braziliensis, which gives the Para Rubber, is one of the Spurges or Milkyjuiced Euphorbiaceæ, as also the Ceara Rubber tree (*Manihot Glaziovii*), while the Moraceæ or Mulberry family to which belongs the Rambong (*Ficus Elastica*) or Assam Rubber tree is omitted altogether. Africa and the Amazon are mentioned as climatologically suited to various kinds of Rubber, but Asia is not alluded to at all. Mr. Porritt does not attempt to solve the problem of what the physiological function of latex may be. He contents himself with the brief statements based on the researches of Bysow and Fickendey that "it may be reserve food material, provide a protection against bark injury, or be a waste product of metabolism." The fact that Hevea trees rest during their period of leaf fall or wintering is an argument in favour of the first of these theories. The composition of latex of various kinds of Rubbers is given in a brief table, and the various methods of coagulation are also only slightly touched upon. The author, however, makes the significant remark: "It is remarkable that Para Rubber, produced by a primitive process in the Amazon should be superior to that prepared under scientific control and supervision from the same species of tree in Asia." Mr. Wickham's samples ought by this time to have set this point for ever at rest, for (if his smoke-cured Ceylon Hevea is equal in quality to the South American article) then the difference is due to curing by smoke and retention of proteid, coupled perhaps with certain advantages due to the tension produced by the rolling of the consecutive layers, the inclusion of surplus moisture, and the permanency resulting from the chemical action of the wood smoke employed.

CRUDE RUBBER.—Mr. Porritt does not admit that commercial rubber from plantations even contains "more than 95 per cent. of pure Caoutchouc, and for wild rubbers the figure falls much lower."

He gives the impurities as follows:—

INVARIABLE.

1. Resins.
2. Nitrogenous bodies, proteius, peptones.
3. Carbohydrates and colouring matters.
4. Inorganic matter.

OCCASIONAL.

5. Dirt, bark, sand.
6. Moisture.
7. Free Acid and Mineral Matter introduced by coagulants.

RESINS.—He doubts the possibility of these being due to oxidation of rubber, mainly owing to their being constant for each variety. "In contrast to Caoutchouc the majority are found to be optically active a fact which renders such a view almost untenable, and also provides a means for the location of the botanical source of the crude material." Although based on the work of Hinrichsen Marcusen neither the statement nor the deduction appear to be particularly clear. His table of Resins is also defective. It is headed by Para, in which Resins are said to be entirely wanting and finishes with Gutta Percha in which Resins are given as being 46 per cent., Jelutong is not tabulated, is said to give as much as 70 per cent., while the resinous content of Plantation Rubber (either Para or Ceara) is not given at all.

The acetone test for resins is barely alluded to, although the rate of extraction by this solvent is given as the reason for Spence's conclusion that resins are *absorbed and not dissolved in the rubber*. (The italics are ours.)

A little expansion and added matter would greatly improve this section in a future edition.

NITROGENOUS MATTER.—The author makes an interesting statement, apparently upon the authority of Messrs. Beadle and Stephens, that "the presence of protein exercises a beneficial effect on the physical strength of the rubber and on the course of its vulcanisation." He adds that it has been proposed by Heinemann to add a proportion of nitrogenous matter to the isoprenes, &c. used in the preparation of synthetic rubber. Should these statements be correct (and it must be recollected that Mr. Porritt is Chief Chemist to the largest manufacturing Rubber Company in the world) they have an important bearing on the present methods in use on Rubber Estates. The method of coagulation by Mineral Acids, which is almost universally employed has the effect of eliminating nearly all (if not all) the proteid matter. It should not be difficult to make experiments which will once for all set this matter at rest.

CARBOHYDRATES.—Mr. Porritt notes the occasional occurrence of sugar in Hevea Rubber in the extraordinary quantity of as much as 2½ per cent. Beyond noting the fact, however, and giving the identification of the sugar by Messrs. Pickles & Whitefield nothing is said as regards the relative frequency of its occurrence and whether it appears in wild or in plantation rubber or both, or whether it affects the quality. We imagine that it is a rare feature and probably due to disease affecting wild Rubber in limited areas. Certain bark cankers produce similar results in other trees.

PUTRIFICATION OF CRUDE RUBBER.

From this point Mr. Porritt begins to tread upon sure ground. He lays stress on the necessity for "darkness the drying room coupled with free ventilation." This is a point which the Reviewer feels certain should be looked on the Plantation more carefully than it is at present. Mr. Porritt mentions 3 weeks at a temperature of 80° F. as the time required for efficient drying. In common with most manufacturers and many planters he is opposed to the use of Vacuum Driers. Even so low a temperature

as 140 deg. F. he considers high and states that it affects both the "feel" and "milling qualities." The loss on washing given in this table varies enormously.

Plantation Rubber easily heads the list with only 1 to 2 per cent.

Weak Fine Para loses 14 to 16 per cent., Hard Fine 17 to 19 per cent. and Para Negro head as much as 40 to 50 per cent.

The author is not slow to point out what an important bearing this has on the price paid.

He gives the increase in price over the sale room cost of 1 pound of 1st Latex Plantation at 54d. as 1.95d. per lb. only, while washing, deresinating and drying Gold Coast Lump at 24d. brings it up to 85.35d. per lb. of 5s. 1.35d. on a 2s. article, loss on washing being 63 per cent. and resin 24 per cent.

It is a pity that he does not give the ratio between Plantation and Para but (as his analysis table gives the resins as nearly equal in amount) it would appear that a loss of about 16 per cent. of moisture would bring the cost of a Hard Para (at 54d. sale room price) up to 64.28d., an increase of over 10½d. per lb.

"Bargains," says the author, "in low grade rubbers at present prices are 'illusory.'" But is Para Rubber intrinsically worth this 10½d. plus the present market difference of another 9d.?

TACKINESS.—The author seems to discard the idea of tackiness being due to either bacterial action or the presence of carbohydrates. He leaves the issue in suspense between the two alternatives of *depolymerisation* (due to imperfect coagulation or storage in unsuitable quarters) and *oxidation*. The reviewer is more inclined to believe in the bad effect of unsuitable storage, as samples of identical rubbers become tacky or the reverse, so long as they are kept in badly ventilated storage or freely exposed to the air respectively.

"Perishing" or Oxidation the author defines as "due to the action of light and heat and to the quality of the rubber itself." He describes it as attacking chiefly inferior rubbers—and in its development an acid smell is generated, the rubber becomes first of all soft and then changes gradually into a hard, brittle resin—due to the absorption of 4 molecules of Oxygen the final product being C10 H16 O4.

The "perishing" also affects vulcanised rubber but "the problem is complicated by the effect exerted by inorganic filling agents (particularly copper salts or oxide of iron) and the method and degree of vulcanisation." He might have added that excess of free sulphur often effloresces on, say, motor-tyres exposed to air, and to the actinic rays of sunlight; this sulphur oxidises, sulphuric acid is formed and destructive chemical action set up.

Although it has been necessary to quote somewhat freely to give some idea of the author's knowledge and scope we have only trenched on some 12 of his 87 pages, the remainder treating of the "Constitution and Derivatives," "Methods of Vulcanisation," "Theories of Vul-

canisation," "Waste Rubber and its Utilisation" and last, but not least, "Synthetic Caoutchouc." In this the author, as duly becomes a manufacturing chemist, has a more than academic interest, but is obliged to confess "that a successful issue has not yet been reached, nor for that matter does it appear probable in the immediate future." He also quotes that great authority Dr. Duisberg, chief chemist of the Bayer Company which has actually manufactured articles from the synthetic product yet who is obliged to own that, "the difficulties which have been overcome were great indeed, but those which still remain to be surmounted are still greater."

We have done enough to show that Mr. Porritt's book is one which no planter should be without. It is to be hoped that one with so capable a knowledge of Rubber as it reaches the manufacturer will yet find time to visit the Rubber groves of the East. To have him on the spot would be a pleasure not devoid of profit to the Rubber planting industry of Ceylon and the future East.

J. R.

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held at the Government Experiment Station at 3 p.m. on Thursday, the 12th March, 1914.

Present:—The Director of Agriculture (in the chair); the Government Mycologist; the Government Entomologist; the Hon. the Government Agent, Central Province; Messrs. E. E. Campbell, G. Harbord, G. H. Golledge, C. E. G. Pandittesekera, A. W. Beven, Mudaliyar A. E. de Rajapakse, M. L. Wilkins, G. H. Masefield, Neil G. Campbell, and as visitors Messrs. E. E. Meggett, Hew Kennedy, A. J. Hamilton Harding, H. A. Beachcroft, and the Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Progress Report of the Peradeniya Experiment Station had been circulated. The Reports of Maha-illupalam and the Dry Zone Station were tabled. The Chairman in referring to the Anuradhapura Report called attention to the forward state of the work of the new Experiment Station. A trial ground of 14 acres is to be opened for the cultivation of native food products. The sanction of Government has also been obtained for the building of an office and bungalow for the Manager.

LABOUR FORCE.—The Chairman informed the meeting of the difficulty at present experienced in regard to labour for the Experiment Stations owing to the necessity of recovering the cooly advances made by Government in the period of one year. Suggestions of the Committee were invited, but no satisfactory alternative to estate custom of advances was proposed.

Mr WILKINS referring to an article by Mr. Rutherford on Shot-Hole Borer in the "Tropical Agriculturist" of February, suggested that an absence of the rise of temperature supposed to be brought about by fermentation

of large quantities of buried green prunings, might account for the fact that insects were not killed in these experiments, in which only twigs were used; and further that the experiments might be repeated and the temperature recorded.

The Government Entomologist admitted that such might be the case but remarked that the point was only of the theoretical value; that the practical point was as to whether or not the insects were killed in prunings buried under estate condition that if they were not killed then the question as whether or not there was a rise in temperature due to fermentation was immaterial.

It was decided to await the result of the examination of prunings buried under estate conditions, several members undertaking to see that such prunings were sent to the Government Entomologist.

RUBBER RESEARCH.—As regard rubber research it was announced a proposal had been made that a technical committee of members of the Rubber Research Committee and others be appointed to control the experiments.

NEW MEMBERS.—It was resolved that the new Chairman of the Planters' Association should be recommended for election ex-officio and also the Rural Member of Council.

LONDON RUBBER EXHIBITION.—The Chairman informed those present that though the time was very nearly up for exhibits to be sent in he had received notice of only a very few. He asked that the Committee with whom the idea of exhibiting originated to exert their influence in getting exhibits sent.

It was resolved that the Ceylon Commissioner write to the local papers regarding the matter.

The Chairman also said that as Ceylon Commissioner he would require some help in getting the Ceylon Stand ready and the names of several gentlemen who would be home at the time were suggested for a working committee.

DUNLOP'S TECHNICAL SUPERINTENDENT.—It was decided that if Mr. Worthington, Dunlop's Technical, who is coming out to Ceylon on a visit, is in the Island at the time of the next meeting, he should be invited to attend.

RUBBER EXPERIMENTS.—Mr. Petch submitted some interesting figures with regard to the seven interval tapping experiment at Heneratgoda. The trees were tapped by a full herring bone with 3 cuts, 1 foot apart, on half the circumference, base to 3 feet on the West side; 2nd, base to 3 feet on the East, 3rd, 3 to 6 feet on the West; 4th, 3 to 6 feet on the East. There are thus four tapping areas on each tree, which are tapped successively. Row 1 is tapped daily, Row 2 every other day, Row 3 every three days, &c.

NEW SOIL EXPERIMENTS.—The Chairman reported that new soil experiments were being started at Peradeniya by the Government Chemist to test the effect of different classes of soil (1) on the growth of the plants, root development etc. of rubber and tea. (2) The effect of complete nutrient applications of six pure chemical plant-foods, with one constituent omitted in each case.

PADDY CULTIVATION.—There was a long discussion on this question. The Chairman intimated to the meeting that experiments which were being conducted by the Agricultural Society on 24 experimental plots, in pairs, (one under green manure and one control) in different parts of the country to test the value of green manuring. The green manures to be used were Sun Hemp, Cow Pea and Wild Indigo. The result arrived at from these experiments would be published.

It was pointed out that the goiya might find himself unable to adopt the system of green manure application as this would entail fencing certain portions of his field which would limit the grazing ground for cattle. It was decided to test whether such obstacles existed and whether they were insurmountable.

Mr. Beven pointed out that the practice of green manuring at present carried out by the Goiya was to cut his green stuff from the jungle and plough it into the soil and not to grow it on the actual land, the reason being that so many paddy fields never became sufficiently dry to allow green manures to be planted.

The question of the extension of paddy cultivation and its bearing on the price of rice was discussed at some length. Some members thought that the issue at stake had been somewhat confused by the papers. The local supply, even if increased to double its present amount, would be far too small an amount to seriously effect the market though a slight reduction might take place. The Chairman pointed out that the price of wheat in England did not depend upon the amount grown in England but upon the crops of the great wheat producing countries like America, Russia and Roumania. Similarly he thought the price of rice would probably be controlled by supplies from great rice-producing countries like India and Burma. The Department of Agriculture would continue its endeavours to improve the output per acre of paddy which would benefit the local grower. The results of experiments conducted in past years at Peradeniya, Maha-illupalama and by the Agricultural Society would be gathered up in the form of a bulletin.

The Chairman handed round for the information of the Committee the following figures supplied by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce which showed that the price of rice for the first week in January for each of the years named:—

1905	...	Rs. 3-50	1910	...	Rs. 4-50
1906	...	.. 4-00	1911	...	.. 4-25
1907	...	.. 4-75	1912	...	.. 4-75
1908	...	.. 5-00	1913	...	.. 5-25
1909	...	.. 4-85	1914	...	.. 5-00

A memorandum on the extension of Paddy cultivation was submitted by Mr. Beven.

ESTIMATES FOR EXPERIMENT STATION.—It was resolved to ask Government for an increase in the estimates for the upkeep of 20 new acres of rubber which had been opened and for opening another 20 acres in the coming year for the establishment of an economic products section.

The meeting terminated at 5-30 p.m. when members adjourned to inspect the new rubber clearing on the hill-top.

and were much impressed by the fine growth of the Tephrosia candida with which the rubber had been interplanted and the healthy growth of the rubber plants which had been heavily mulched with two cuttings of this green manure.

THE EDITOR,
"Planting Gazette."

CATTLE MANURE.

DEAR SIR,

In your March number appeared an article under the above heading and over the initials—"R.B." This article so far as it refers to the storage, dressing, and application of Bulk manure—is of eminent practical value. But, when it strays into figures, "R.B." is far from convincing and not for the high proportion of Phosphoric Acid in the sample of Poonac-fed cattle manure it would seem likely that there had been a *mix-up* in the laboratory of the analyst.

I do not for a moment dispute the honesty of "R.B." but I do doubt the accuracy of his analyses. The results obtained from individual samples are never of satisfying value; and I am tempted to suggest to "R.B." that his cattle coolies may have inadvertently sprinkled his poonac-fed cattle manure with *Basic Slag* in mistake for *Kainit*; hereby liberating, instead of fixing, the Ammonia, and adding very materially to the content of Phosphoric Acid.

I do not claim any expert knowledge of this subject; my object in writing is to elicit such further particulars from "R.B." as he is disposed to impart. For the purposes of this letter I am drawing largely on Aikman's *Manures and Manuring* (third impression); and, where ever I have stolen bodily from the book, the passages quoted will be found in parenthesis.

First, however, let me be sure of my premises. The Poonac-fed cattle are presumably the Estate Cart bullocks, which, at the end of their days work, are comfortably stalled in a shed of their own, where they are fed on Poonac—and incidentally with paddy-straw, which latter is also their bedding. Their urine is carefully guided to a suitable tank; their dung is thrown into a covered pit where it is thatched with *mana grass* or other litter moistened with urine, trampled by pigs, and from time to time powered with *Kainit*. The Patna-fed cattle are supposedly the Estate Kangaries' animals, which are driven off in the morning to graze on the patnas, in the charge of a cooly, and housed at night in a separate shed, where their excreta are treated in a manner identical with that of the Poonac-fed cattle.

"The composition of the manure depends . . . largely on the nature of the food . . . of the animal. "The solid excreta, consist . . . of undigested food, while the urine contains the manurial ingredients of the food which have been digested by the animal system. The Nitrogen present in the urine, it may be well to point out, is derived from the waste of Nitrogenous tissue as well as from the nitrogenous matter of the food digested." " . . . in the passage of the food through the system of the common farm-yard animals, only a very small percentage of the fertilis-

ing substances, nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash, is assimilated in the animal body; and . . . theoretically at least, the excreta should contain nearly the same amount of fertilising matter as the food originally did."

On the face of the statements in the above paragraph, it would appear reasonable that one way of arriving at the comparative values of cattle-manure would be to analyse the food consumed by the animals. A working animal is said to return more of the nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash than one not at work. Therefore, unless the poonac and paddy-straw are vastly inferior plant ingredients to the stray food of the patnas, one would expect to find the poonac-fed cattle yielding a far richer manure than the usually emaciated property of the Kangany. Can "R.B." give me any proof that his patnas, wherever they may be, are any more fattening than those of the rest of the island? Or has he any figures to shew that the food of his patnas is richer in nitrogen and ash ingredients than poonac supplemented with paddy-straw?

Let me reproduce his table of comparative analysis.

ANALYSIS OF CATTLE MANURE.

These results are from fair average samples.

Poonac-fed cattle	Nit.	P. Acid.	Pot.
1 ton manure contains lbs.	7.6	7.4	6.3
Patna-fed cattle.			
1 ton manure contains lbs.	11.4	3.4	9.4

A brief study of the above is extraordinary in its results. Nitrogen and potash are 33 per cent. lower, and phosphoric acid is more than 100 per cent. higher, in the poonac-fed sample than the patna-fed sample. I question whether there are any two known foods which could produce such an astonishing difference; and I doubt if any food could effect such a complete cataclysm amongst the plant ingredients as is evidenced in "R.B.'s" analysis of cattle-manure.

Unfortunately I have by me no local analyses, showing the composite, values of poonac or paddy straw; indeed, I do not know if any such exist. The following figures taken from Aikman are, however, sufficiently suggestive.

AVERAGE COMPOSITION PER TON OF CATTLE-FOODS.

	Nit.	P. Acid.	Pot.
Cocoanut Cake	76.18	31.36	44.80
Straws.			
Pea-straw	22.40	7.84	22.40
Cat-straw	11.20	5.38	22.40
Wheat-straw	10.08	5.38	17.92
Barley-straw	8.96	4.03	22.40
Bean-straw	20.16	6.72	22.40
Average of straws	14.56	5.87	21.70

Whence, then comes the inordinate proportion of phosphoric Acid found in the Poonac-fed cattle-manure? Or, allowing that the phosphoric acid is in right quantity, what has become of the rest of the Nitrogen and Potash? In the case of the sheep, a large percentage of the potash it consumes is absorbed into the wool; but this is not true of the cow. It is possible that some working animals may

draw unduly on the Nitrogen in their food, in order to build up fresh tissue; but scarcely, I think, to the above extent. Indeed the more I ponder over the analyses of "R.B." the more I am led to believe that there has been one of those accidental side-slips, so common with Tamil labour; and, in the absence of further particulars, I may perhaps be pardoned if I treat "R.B.'s" figures with scepticism.

Yours, &c.,
FRED. S. ELSON.

NOTICE.

Advertising for Bolters.

The Coast Agency Committee discussed at the September Meeting the expediency of advertising in the Newspapers offering rewards for coolies who have absconded or bolted.

It was decided that this practice is inadvisable and the Secretary was directed to publish this decision in the *Planting Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

Tickets on the Railway.

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kanganies proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

A Forms.

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September, 1913.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.
(Resolution Referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contem-

plate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly,
14th October, 1913.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January, 1913.

Coast Agency Cess.

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the *Planters' Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Ceylon Labour Commission.

TRICHINOPOLY, SOUTH INDIA.

ESTABLISHED 1ST JUNE, 1904.

HEAD OFFICE.—Trichinopoly.

CABLE AND TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.—"Rubber," Trichinopoly.

POSTAL ADDRESS.—The Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly.

Central Cooly Depot, Trichinopoly.

CONTROLLING STAFF.—Commissioner at Trichinopoly.

" " Deputy Commissioner, at Head Quarters, in charge of Head Quarters Circle and Trichy Depot.

" " Assistant Commissioner, in charge of Palghat Circle at Palghat.

" " Assistant Commissioner, in charge of Chittoor Circle at Chittoor.

" " Assistant Commissioner, in charge of Salem Circle, at Salem.

BANKERS.—The Bank of Madras, Colombo and Madras.

AUDITORS.—Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co. Colombo.

SOLICITORS.—Messrs. King and Partridge, Madras.

VAKIL.—Dewan Bahadur T. Desikachari, B.A., B.L., Trichinopoly.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER'S REPORT FOR 1913.

INTRODUCTORY.

In submitting my report on the work of the Ceylon Labour Commission during 1913, I would point out that the monthly articles in the *Planting Gazette* have afforded much information which does not require repetition in the Annual report, I have however endeavoured to touch on all points of importance and interest. Having been nearly two years in charge of this Commission, I have had occasion to alter my views somewhat on various matters since my report of 1912 written some six months after my arrival in the country. Notwithstanding the fact that the past year is the best as far as statistical returns are concerned since the constitution of the Commission in South India, I am not altogether satisfied with the progress that is being made, and have therefore ventured to give my views on the question of Kangany recruiting generally, more especially with reference to village indebtedness and the collusion of the Ceylon Kangany with the professional recruiter. My suggestion with regard to reducing the rate per head made in my first report has apparently not yet received consideration. If coolies were recruited under a direct recruiting scheme such reduction would not perhaps be politic, as it would no doubt place us at a disadvantage in competition with others, but as far as Kangany recruiting is concerned, I think there is still a margin which enables the Kangany to pay the professional recruiter for doing the work which he should himself be carrying out amongst his own village connections. During the year, I have endeavoured to utilise in the best interests of subscribers the staff at my disposal, but owing to the volume of work connected with the administration of the Commission, it has been possible to undertake very little Kangany supervision, a work that is necessary in the interests of estates whose money is being expended on the coast. It was not possible for financial reasons to give effect to my proposals at the commencement of the year to increase the scope of the Commission with that object in view among others. Towards the end of the year, I again submitted a programme and estimates on similar lines which got so far, I am glad to say, as to receive the sanction of my Committee. Subsequently it has been considered advisable again to postpone definite action, at any rate, for the present.

Statistics.

The Government returns of coolies shipped from all ports in South India to Ceylon during 1913 amount to 21,359 as against 119,042 in the previous year. The actual number of coolies registered at the Agencies of this Commission were 97,564 as against 93,925 during the previous year.

Review.

It is satisfactory to note that the statistical position of this Commission shows a further improvement on that of

the previous year which indicates that the facilities it affords to Estates recruiting labour are still apparently appreciated. Owing to climatic conditions and other adverse circumstances, recruiting which opened out with so much promise during the early part of the year fell off in a most disappointing fashion during the latter half. The rains in most parts of South India (with the exception of parts of Salem, South Madura and Tinnevely) more especially in Districts from which our labour is chiefly drawn, were exceedingly plentiful and in some cases quite abnormal causing in parts of the country unprecedented floods which disorganised the Railway systems and undoubtedly checked emigration. That recruiting by Kanganies from Ceylon during the last four months was also less active than usual is illustrated by the decrease in the number of A. Forms received at Head Office. The comparative statement (Exhibit A) appended shows that the falling off in these forms amounted to no less than 650 during those 4 months. It may have been merely a coincidence that this decrease synchronised with the initiation of the new rules of the Proprietors Labour Federation, but I am inclined to think that these new Regulations beneficial as they are bound to be in the long run, undoubtedly tend temporarily to check the numbers of Kanganies and coolies coming over on recruiting expeditions. On the other hand, it is a matter of satisfaction to note that there exist in Ceylon a number of Estates that have an ample supply of labour, as instanced by instructions that have been received from time to time during the year from Superintendents to stop registration on their account for that reason.

Staff.

EUROPEAN.—Mr. W. Ferguson, Depot Superintendent resigned his appointment on the 1st February, 1913, and the vacancy was filled by the appointment of Mr. E. V. B. Levinge who had previously been in the Salt and Akbari Department. On the 5th May the services of Mr. H. Farquharson, Deputy Commissioner were dispensed with, and Mr. N. H. M. Bowden, Assistant Superintendent of Tudugalla, Kalutara, was selected to fill the vacancy. Mr. Bowden was posted to Head Quarters, and Mr. Levinge transferred to charge of Salem Circle. I am glad to be able to report that the appointments of Mr. Bowden as Deputy Commissioner and Mr. Levinge as an Assistant have so far been amply justified.

INDIAN.—Bi-monthly inspection of Agencies was continued throughout the year and complaints from Superintendents have consequently been less frequent, I am glad to say. I have not been able to bring about this improvement without replacing a good many Agents. During the year, the services of no less than 14 Agents and their Assistants were dispensed with and 5 resigned of their own accord. In replacing these officers and making new appointments, I have employed 9 pensioners (6 Military, 1 Civil and 2 State) and 10 non-pensioners of good character and standing. The work of the Agencies has very much improved in consequence and I do not doubt that the drastic action I have been obliged to take has had a salutary effect.

Trichinopoly Depôt.

This institution has worked smoothly and well during the year and the coolies from the Northern Agencies quite appreciate the rest and meal which is given them during this welcome break in the long journey from distant Agencies. During the latter half of the year this Depôt was placed under the direct control of the Deputy Commissioner and the result has been eminently satisfactory. During the year the catering work has handed over to Messrs. Spencer & Co., Ltd. who have a very large experience in this kind of work as they are the Contractors for the supply of refreshments on the South Indian and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway systems. The food supplied by them has been uniformly good and is thoroughly appreciated by the coolies. There have been no complaints except of a frivolous nature and I believe engendered by those who are eager to secure the catering work themselves.

SANITATION.—This has been carefully attended to. A large staff of sweepers under the supervision of the Assistant Agent has been constantly at work. The whole of the refuse is disposed of by incinerators at practically no cost, as it is not found necessary to consume any firewood in the effective furnaces employed. The incinerators used are able to consume the whole of the rubbish picked up which is mostly of an inflammable nature and serve to reduce the refuse to fine ashes.

EPIDEMIC.—Owing to the strict supervision exercised and the daily visit and inspection of the Medical Officer, there has been, I am glad to report, no outbreak of epidemic disease throughout the year although a few isolated cases of illness have occurred from time to time among newly arrived coolies in the Segregation Camp due in one or two instances to over-eating. However, by separating these coolies promptly from the rest and keeping them in the detached hospital building which has been erected for the purpose, any untoward results have been successfully avoided.

WATER SUPPLY.—The Municipal authorities during the year complied with my request to place 4 more water taps within the Camp thus increasing the supply of good drinking water to the coolies.

Pre Advance and Village Debts.

In many cases large amounts are still being paid to Kanganies ostensibly for the payment of village debts prior to registration. I have been frequently informed during the year by Superintendents that Kanganies report to them that it is impossible to recruit labour unless large amounts are placed at their disposal for liquidating coolies indebtedness in the villages from which they are recruiting. In order to satisfy myself as to the reliability of this statement, I have during the year been making enquiries and the result satisfies me that as a general rule the Kanganies demands are greatly out of proportion to necessity. I append for the information of Superintendents a letter (Exhibit B) written by the Assistant Commissioner of Chittoor on "Village Debts" which is interesting to read and goes far to confirm what I state. It seems to me that Kanganies are using the cry of village indebtedness as a lever for enhancing their

advance account at the expense of the Estates and in similar manner to their methods with regard to local recruiting in Ceylon. As a further illustration of the unreliability of Kanganies' statements with regard to village indebtedness I have only to refer to the recruiting methods of the F.M.S. as they exist at present. A license is issued to recruiters to supply labour to the F.M.S. Emigration Depôt, the existing rate per head is at the present time Rs. 12 and over and above this the recruiter receives nothing. The expenses from the nearest depôt to the F.M.S. are defrayed by the Government and the cooly is, I understand, landed absolutely free of debt. I ask how is it possible for these recruiters to have forwarded thousands of coolies during the year under report to the F.M.S. had they to finance themselves for the payment of the aforesaid village debts, and even supposing they had paid these on their own account what method have they of recovery? What the Straits recruiters can accomplish the Ceylon Kangany can also if he so desires or if it is made worth his while, but so long as the system of giving large pre-advance for imaginary village debts is the common practice of Superintendents, the position is not likely to improve.

In many cases I am convinced that these pre-advances are shared between the Kangany and the professional recruiter and it is only by strict supervision of coolies' accounts that this can be checked. Further on in my report I have suggested consideration of a direct recruiting scheme which would do away with the necessity for making these large pre-advances to Kanganies, the payment of which for years has been beneficial only to the Kangany himself and in hundreds of cases has enabled him to become a landed proprietor in this country without benefiting the actual cooly to any extent.

Rate Per Head.

From observation during the course of the year at various Agencies, I find that in many instances only a small proportion of this Commission is paid to the cooly and the balance is pocketed by the Kangany. On inspecting the Tataparai Agency books, I noticed that numbers of Kanganies took these payments just prior to embarkation, coolies only receiving Re. 1 or Rs. 2 the balance being presumably taken back by the Kangany to Ceylon which goes to prove that a proportion of the rate per head might very easily be paid by the Superintendent, to the Kangany in the shape of a bonus on the arrival of the coolies on the Estate and where coolies fail to arrive, this sum at least could be saved.

Bolting After Registration.

The appended schedule (Exhibit C) shows that during the year no less than 3,742 coolies either bolted after registration on the way to the port of embarkation or were rejected for some reason or other either at Trichinopoly or Tataparai and the total unrecoverable amount involved is Rs. 31,864-10-7 giving a percentage of 3.84 per cent. on the total number of coolies recruited throughout the year. This result is not at all satisfactory and the bulk of the evil can be put down to the operations of the professional re-

mitter and the machinations of the dishonest Kanganies. For the sake of comparison I am unable to produce reliable figures for previous years as until after my arrival in South India, no complete records were kept and there appears to have been no system of supervision with regard to this very serious matter, but I am fairly confident that the loss to Estates was very much more than is the case at present. While exercising every endeavour to protect the interests of Estates as far as possible, I would again appeal to Superintendents to exercise more discrimination in the selection of Kanganies sent over for recruiting. I am aware that in spite of all my efforts a large percentage of Kanganies deliberately place themselves in the hands of professional recruiters and either in connivance with them or with the object of securing the rate per head, bring for registration coolies who have no intention of proceeding to Ceylon and who bolt soon after registration. The Assistant Commissioners are now paying particular attention to these Agencies where bolting after registration is most prevalent, but owing to the small European staff at my disposal, the supervision of Kanganies in this respect is extremely limited. There is one way in which Superintendents can protect their interests in a measure and that is by making the rate per head payable in moieties, a portion say Rs. 5 at the Agency of registration, a further Rs. 5 at Trichinopoly and the balance at the point of emigration, or on the arrival of the coolies at the Estate. This system, would, at any rate, minimise loss, as naturally a great amount of bolting after registration takes place immediately subsequent to despatch from the Agency at which the coolies are registered. During the year Ramasawmy Kanganey of Maha Uva Estate was convicted and sentenced in India to 13 months rigorous imprisonment for registering bogus coolies and obtaining commission on them. In Ceylon the Superintendent of Sarnia Estate succeeded in obtaining a conviction against Kandaswamy cooly who received a sentence of 9 months imprisonment for a similar offence. A notice setting out these convictions has been widely circulated both on Ceylon Estates and in South India and it is hoped will tend to check further practices of a similar dishonest nature. I discovered during the year the existence of a gang of bogus coolies, who were apparently in the habit of making a living by getting themselves registered at Agencies North of Trichinopoly either in collusion with Kanganies or by hoodwinking them. Having had a group photograph taken of these coolies and circulated to all Agencies, they were somewhat surprised at the warm reception which they got on arriving one day at my Trichinopoly dépôt. They have since taken to some other method of earning their livelihood, as I have not been troubled with them again.

Defaulting Department.

The usual statements (Exhibit D) are appended and it will be seen that the work of this Department has largely increased signifying either that defaulting from Estates is on the increase or that the utility of this Department is being more appreciated by Superintendents. The schedule appended giving the amounts recovered from each Agency

is instructive and indicate that in the old recruiting districts at least the admission of pecuniary obligation by the cooly is not yet a dead letter. A great deal depends of course on the influence and standing of the Agent, but the fact that so large a sum has been recovered during the year under report is illustrative of what can be done by passive persuasion and the influence of this Commission in many of the recruiting districts. The new B. Forms which were provided to Superintendents have reduced the clerical work of the office in a great measure and similarly facilitated the work of tracing defaulters in the villages by the Agents. An impression appears to be prevalent amongst some of the Kanganies however that these B. Forms are warrants and as such can be acted upon. I would again point out that it is not possible to arrest a defaulter in this country.

Rejection of Minors.

I have taken very stringent precaution to prevent minors or solitary women being passed through to Ceylon without authority and I am glad to say that there have been very few cases of this description and Superintendents have, as usual, met me readily in their return under escort. Palany Kanganey of Godahena Estate was convicted for kidnapping and sentenced to 2 years imprisonment by the Palghat Joint Magistrate. This was the only conviction that came to my notice. The Agent at Palghat who was implicated to some extent has been dismissed. A notice has lately been circulated to all Estates subscribing to this Commission and all Agencies warning Kanganies and coolies against the recruitment of minors without the necessary authority and giving extracts from the Indian Penal Code.

European Recruiters.

A certain amount of recruiting was undertaken during the year by European Agents for Ceylon Estates, but in most cases the result has not been at all satisfactory. I would again emphasise the necessity for reference in the first place to this Commission for information before coming to terms with any of these Agents, as I am in a position to obtain particulars as to their credit and standing in this country and in many cases reference to me might prevent loss and disappointment to Estate Superintendents.

Superintendents' Recruiting.

24 Superintendents as undernoted have been over during the year to supervise the work of their Kanganies and in some cases have undertaken direct recruiting in the Telugu districts with a considerable amount of success. Direct recruiting in any of the old Tamil Districts is an exceedingly uphill task and appears to be a fairly hopeless proposition unless some respectable Indian intermediary is employed.

Messrs. W. A. Orlebar Wells, Aranayaka; E. L. Fraser, Rangalla Group; E. H. Brohier, Albion; Thomas A. D'Mel, Cecilton; Donald Steward, Demodera Group; Anthony Browne, Delwita; H. G. O. Connell, El Teb; C. R. Robson, Elfindale; F. R. A. Brown, Houpe; K. C. Ronin Erridge, Hewagam; H. M. Carmichael, Hindugalla; Bailean, Imboolpitiya; H. D. McMillan, Lindoola; J. N. Fernando, Lyndhurst; C. E. Clark, Madōla; R. M. Eckert,

Madawella; Walter Koch, Nella Oolla; John Patterson, Opata; W. C. Bouchanan, Palmerston; W. Raynond Jacks, Ross; H. W. Taylor, Urumuttu; J. L. Henderson, Uva; A. R. T. Gibbon, Wigton; M. Lindstrom, Urumuttu.

Colombo and Tuticorin Forwarding Agencies.

During the year, a Feeding house has been maintained by this Commission at Tuticorin and ultimately linked up with the Forwarding Agency of a similar nature which has now been established in Colombo. It is to be regretted that many Superintendents have not availed themselves of the facilities afforded by these Agencies as it is a great convenience to Kanganies and coolies that they should be fed at Colombo and Tuticorin and protected from the boutique keepers and liquor sellers of these places. The utility of these Agencies may be affected, now that the arrangements for the through train service to South India via Polgahawella and Dhanushkodi are completed and the question of establishing similar Agencies at these two places is under the consideration of the Coast Agency Committee. The arrangements made by this Commission for through booking and catering for Estate Kanganies en route to India to recruit labour does away entirely with the necessity for Superintendents to make any appreciable cash payments to them, a large proportion of which does not find its way into South India at all as it is expended in Ceylon itself, prior to the Kanganies' departure.

Office and Finance.

HEAD OFFICE.

By almost complete re-organisation the Head Office system, has I consider, now been brought to the necessary standard of efficiency. Various changes in the staff have, however, been obligatory and additions have been made wherever necessary in order to cope with the work which during the year has been exceedingly heavy. Mr. Donaldson, the Accountant, has done a great deal to contribute to the satisfactory state of affairs that now exist and the Deputy Commissioner's previous experience in Government Departments has been of the greatest value. Complaints from Superintendents have been exceedingly few. I am glad to report.

Current Accounts.

I would ask Subscribers to see that their Estate accounts always carry a balance at credit sufficient to meet the probable requirements of their recruiters. I quite understand that accounts must occasionally be temporarily overdrawn when Kanganies bring more coolies than the Superintendent expects, but if Superintendents would respond to wires or postcards immediately they are received by them, a large amount of correspondence and some expenses to the Estates would be saved.

Half-Yearly Balance Certificates.

The Auditors report that a number of subscribers omit to fill up and send them the half-yearly Balance Certificates. I would ask all subscribers kindly to give these Certificates their prompt attention and to assist the Auditors to verify the correctness of Estate Balances at 30th June, and 31st December by completing and sending these Certificates as soon after receipt as possible.

Estate Pass Books.

Pass Books have been received more frequently and regularly during 1913 and accounting between subscribers and the Commission has been considerably facilitated and differences avoided in consequence.

The bulk of the work in the Accounts Department during 1913 shows a considerable increase over the previous financial year, the Daily Accounts from Agencies for May and June 1913 showing an increase of 60 per cent. over the corresponding period 1912. This latter increase is probably accounted for by coolies being recruited in smaller gangs and so increasing the number of transactions and book entries.

Audit.

Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co. completed the audit for half-year ending 30th June, 1913, and are engaged on the audit for July/December.

General.

The Clerical staff has worked efficiently and willingly under the new conditions.

Valuation.

In several instances on the instructions of Superintendents information with regard to the value of Kanganies property on the Coast has been obtained and valuation of landed property can be undertaken if required at any time.

Estate Supplies.

During the year several Estates have availed themselves of the offer of this Commission to purchase cloth blankets, etc., for coolies, while a considerable amount of information as to local cost of produce has been collected and forwarded to Superintendents who enquired about same, together with samples. Arrangements can be made for the supply of all classes of cloths, blankets, or produce and it would also be possible to purchase cattle for use in Ceylon, if necessary.

Camp Equipment.

I again append a list of useful equipment which can be obtained either in Colombo or Madras and without which no European should attempt Camping work in the village or to utilise Dak bungalows which are devoid of suitable furniture or cooking utensils.

- 1 "X" Camp Cot with Mosquito Poles.
- 1 Tiffin Basket fitted for two.
- 1 Aluminium Cooking Canteen in case.
- 1 Autotherm Flask with case (pint size).
- 2 Camp Candle sticks in case.
- 1 D. P. W. Lantern in case.
- 1 Camp Filter.
- Camp Washstand and basin with leather top.
- 1 Camp Mirror.
- 1 Camp Travelling Medicine Chest.
- 1 Camp Travelling Commode.

Catering for Coolies at Out Agencies.

Coolies are now invariably fed at the Depots through out the commission at the uniform rate of Rs. 0-2-6 p to the caterers with one or two exceptions where local price rule high. The food supply is under the periodical inspection.

of the European Staff and any complaints if justified, will result in immediate dismissal of the Caterer.

Payment of Coolies at Trichinopoly.

A European Officer invariably attends the payment of advances and rate per head, the former is made at the Office and the latter at the Depot, thus ensuring, as far as possible, that the cooly shall be protected from extortion.

Estate Recruiting Certificates.

A copy of this useful form is again appended (Exhibit I) and I would ask Superintendents in each instance supply the Kangany with these signed certificates of conditions on their Estate to take with them on their recruiting expeditions. A specimen of this form will be supplied to the South Indian Government and all senior officials during the forthcoming year together with a covering letter explaining the work and scope of the Commission. A copy of this form (Exhibit F) is also inserted.

Legal.

The Chairman, Planters' Association of Ceylon.
and

The Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

..

Mungammal Jessasing Sait.

and

Norman Rowsell, Esq.

This case was opened so early as 12th February, but owing to various delays and postponements, judgment was given only on 22nd of October and resulted in a decree against the 2nd Defendant. The case entailed a considerable amount of work and the cost was heavy.

Supply of Books, Maps, Etc.

CENSUS REPORTS.—These reports contain names of villages, Taluks, Districts, population and area, etc., of the Madras Presidency one set containing all the recruiting districts of the Madras Presidency, price Rs. 30, and the particulars of any District can be supplied at proportionate cost.

POSTAL MAPS & POSTAL GUIDE.—These Maps contain the Post Offices of India. One set containing Maps of the Districts of the Madras Presidency and Postal Guide price Rs. 6.

FORMS.—Several new forms for use in connection with the Commission have been drawn up during the year, and among others, the A. Form has been altered so as to afford better facilities for Superintendents to state their wishes regarding each particular form by endorsement on the back thereof. These Books are now being prepared and will be distributed as soon as the stock on hand is used up. Appended (Exhibit G) is a copy of the new form and of the instructions and definitions which have been found necessary in the interests of the users of the forms. It would greatly facilitate the work of this Commission and would avoid any references both by telegram and by letter if Superintendents were to scrutinize these forms carefully before signing them. During the year there have been many instances of disparity in the names and amounts shown on

Duplicate and Triplicate forms and in many cases the forms have not even been signed by the Superintendents issuing them. It should be borne in mind that these forms are in fact cheques drawn on a Banker and as such should receive similar care in handling them. In one instance at least a heavy loss was incurred by a Superintendent by his signing an A. Form which indicated a large pre-advance as payable, when it was actually his intention to pay no advance whatever. In another instance of a similar nature, owing to the Superintendent giving the pre-advance amount in cents as well as rupees, reference from this office established a mistake on the part of the Superintendent, thus saving him a similar loss. If Superintendents will kindly forward the duplicate A. Form by post to Trichinopoly simultaneously with the issue of the triplicate to the Kangany, delay in recruiting would often be prevented, and complaints that Kangany are kept waiting at this end pending confirmation of their A. Form be reduced to a minimum. For the protection of subscribers it is imperative that this office should await the arrival of the confirmatory form from the Estate before making payments to the holder.

B. FORMS.—A copy of the B. Form (Exhibit H) is given. There has been no change made in this useful form. It would be a great help to this Commission if Superintendents would refrain from issuing more than one B. Form for each defaulter; if further particulars are required, of any man they should be supplied by letter, not by filling in a second form. Cases have arisen of the entering fee of Rs. 2 having been debited twice in regard to one case as it is often not apparent that a second or even a third B. Form refers to the same case as the B. Form originally received, as most of these extra forms are not even marked with a reference to the previous one issued. I shall be glad if Superintendents would impress on Kangany that they should apply to the Commission for assistance as soon as they arrive at the coast. It is found that Kangany proceeding to the villages produce their B. Form stating that it is a "Warrant" and endeavour to collect or compound the debt to their own advantage. In cases where this procedure has been successful, no reference has been made to the Commission whatsoever, and this fact accounts for many of the defaulting cases which are outstanding in the books of the Commission as the Kangany who goes to identify the defaulters has not presented himself at my Agencies. To this procedure also is due non-success of many cases. The Kangany's preliminary visit to the village alarms the defaulters and by the time he has returned to my Agency and obtained the services of one of my staff a defaulter has often absconded to parts unknown.

Direct Recruiting Scheme.

During the year I have been many times asked to give my opinion on direct recruiting and to recommend Agents on this side for that purpose. As I have now been some time in this country entitling me perhaps to form an opinion on the subject, and one which I trust may be of value, I can safely say that I do not consider any direct recruiting scheme

is likely to be successful unless it ensures that the cooly recruited will be landed in Ceylon absolutely free of all indebtedness, and able to secure his monthly pay in his own hands without any deductions whatsoever. He should be placed in Estate gangs with his own family connections quite apart from any Kangany control. I believe that if such a system were inaugurated either as an alternative or as an addition to the existing Kangany recruiting system that in time it would not only prove successful, but would revolutionise Ceylon recruiting, placing us on a far more favourable basis than the Straits which country at present holds the first place in the coolies' mind as the most favourable country for emigration, in support of which I have only to refer to my Assistants' Camping reports that have appeared during the course of the year in the "Planting Gazette." It seems to me that the financing of such a scheme which would entail the expenditure incurred in direct recruiting being placed to the working account of Estates would be a far sounder proposition than the present system of debiting to advance account money provided for fictitious villages debts and commission per head, a greater proportion of which having gone into the Kanganies' pockets and being invested at the Coast is automatically debited by the Kangany to the cooly; often in collusion with the latter, but nevertheless creating a natural discontent in his mind from the first day he arrives in Ceylon from S. India. The recovery of these large sums placed to advance account is problematical and so long as the payment of Coast advances are based upon the Kanganys' statements, the upward tendency will presumably continue, whereas a direct recruiting scheme would bring the figure of expenditure per head to a definite sum only liable to fluctuation caused by legitimate competition with other countries. The great attraction of the cooly to the Straits at the present time cannot be attributed to wages alone, more especially as there is a tendency to economy in that direction owing to a drop in the price of rubber. It must be because he is landed free of all cost and receives his pay with no deductions whatsoever. In support of this, I append a copy of the recruiting license (Exhibit J.) issued by the Government of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States which speaks for itself. If the proprietors of Ceylon estates can bring themselves to face recruiting on these lines by concerted action or individually as an auxiliary or alternative to the present system and authorize Superintendents to select the pick of their Kanganies for this work, I see no reason why the position of Ceylon recruiting should not be vastly improved. There are of course many objections that can be brought forward to the institution of such a system, and the interests of the recruited cooly as well as of the Estates will have to be safeguarded in order to secure protection from the professional recruiting element. That some system of direct recruiting is even now necessary and in the near future will be obligatory for many estates is apparent. The type of recruiter on this side, European or Indian, working as a free lance is usually undesirable, and the responsibility of making any recommendation to

Superintendents is one which, as a general rule, I am not inclined to undertake.

Commissioner's Camping Work.

During the year I have travelled 4,496 miles by rail and 457 by road on the business of this Commission and I have been able thereby to gain a valuable knowledge of many of my Agencies and of the country generally through which I have travelled. Owing to pressure of work at Head Office, I have been able to undertake only two Motor Tours, one in the Coimbatore District and the other in Salem District, reports of which have already appeared in the "Planting Gazette."

Deputy Commissioner's Camping Work.

This Officer has undertaken periodical inspection of the Agencies in the Head Quarter Circle and at other Agencies of this Commission when an urgent visit was found necessary travelling during the year 1,340 miles by rail and 66 by road.

Head Quarter Circle.

A change has been made in the boundaries of this Circle, Musiri and Namakal Agencies with their territory having been placed in charge of the Assistant Commissioner, Salem District. With regard to the remaining Agencies at Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Pudukottah and Manaparai, there has been a considerable increase in the total number of coolies passed through as compared with last year's figures, although Pudukottah Agency shows a decrease of about 600 coolies, this being accounted for by the fact that the State had a very good year and the same necessity for emigration did not exist. The Agency at Manaparai has been closed as regards the payment of advances, but is merely maintained as an Agency to forward tin ticket coolies to Tataparai and to forward coolies with A. Forms to Trichinopoly to receive advances due to them. This step was taken as Manaparai is but 23 miles from Trichinopoly and I do not consider it advisable to maintain a full Agency at such a short distance especially as there is a very frequent train service and the fare is only Rs. 0.40. I have experienced a good deal of trouble with this Agency and complaints have been frequent from Superintendents regarding extortion. Manaparai also is a hot-bed of professional recruiters and by the closing of the Agency these people have been prevented from adding to their ill-gotten income as bogus coolies do not care about facing the scrutiny that awaits them at Trichinopoly.

Generally the prospects of recruiting in the Head Quarter Circle next year are not overbright as it is anticipated that the harvest this year throughout Trichinopoly District and Pudukottah State will be exceedingly good and in Tanjore also the crops will be uniformly heavy. Even in the dry Taluk of Pattukottai the crops this year have been quite good.

Palghat Circle.

The Assistant Commissioner Mr. G. S. Dupen travelled by rail during the year 5,890 miles and by road 801 miles, 6,691, during which time he visited 113 towns and villages.

Agencies.

CANNANORE AGENCY.—This has been opened for about year and owing to the fact that Malayalam labour is not very popular in Ceylon the number of coolies registered has not been very large, though it is to be noted that latterly, more were being registered. There is a large supply of labour available in Malabar and at present the greater proportion of this labour goes to the Straits and Assam. There are said to be 6,000 Malayalees in the Straits and they are evidently a success as they continue to go. I have lately appointed a new Agent a local man of some influence and a Revenue pensioner.

PALGHAT AGENCY.—The number of coolies registered at this Agency has shown some decrease in 1913, one of the reasons reported to me is that owing to the opening of the Cannanore Agency, coolies in North Malabar are now registered at that place instead of Palghat. The Agent in charge had done quite well until latterly, when there was charge of kidnapping brought against him which however was dismissed, but he still has to clear himself of a second charge. As he had also broken the rules of this Commission, I promptly dispensed with his services. The prospects of this Agency are bright, provided Ceylon requires Malayalam labour as any amount of labour is available. Only Kanganies are wanted. Estates who now have Malayalam connections should make use of this Agency before the District is overrun with recruiters from other countries.

ERODE AGENCY.—This is another Agency situated in a town which is the centre of professional recruiting and in consequence the class of coolies registered here is not a very good one and a great many bogus coolies present themselves for registration. There have been 2 or 3 changes of Agents during the year, the present officer is however doing fairly well. The slight decrease in the number of coolies registered may be attributed to some extent to unseasonable rains.

KARUR AGENCY.—This has not been patronised very much during the year by Kanganies and consequently the number of coolies registered is not large. It is apparently too close to the Erode Agency. It is reported that work has been available for the surrounding population almost throughout the year. The Assistant Commissioner suggests the removal of this Agency to another place and the matter will be considered. Here again there have been two or two changes of Agents, and the present man is doing his work quite well.

DINDIGUL AGENCY.—The services of the Agent who had been in charge of this Agency for some years was summarily dispensed with owing to irregularities discovered in the accounts. The Agency is the centre of one of the best recruiting districts and in good hands should show continued improvement. There has been a falling off in the number of coolies registered, but this has been the case in most of the other Agencies due to unseasonable rains. The number of coolies registered at this Agency has increased from year to year and the office records are exceedingly well kept.

MADURA AGENCY.—This Agency has registered a large number of coolies during 1913 in spite of the fact that there are large mills in the place. It is the next largest Agency to Trichinopoly. The conduct of the Agency during the year has not been at all satisfactory and has entailed several changes of Agents, and at time of writing this report, I have just instituted another change with the object of posting a better stamp of officer than has hitherto existed.

Extract from the Palghat Circle Assistant Commissioner's Report.

"I consider that in most of the towns at which I have stopped Labour is available provided the right sort of Kangany is sent, I have been repeatedly asked questions as to how they are to go as to who will come and take them, etc., I am sorry to say that in the districts through which I camp the Penang recruiter predominates, and he is usually a smart capable well-dressed man, which gives the villagers confidence, there are, of course, many villages where no Kanganies have been, these are the places which I consider should be visited by Kanganies, I would suggest that if it is possible Kanganies should follow in the footsteps of our camps."

It is so noticeable that in five out of six villages the question "Is there a Ceylon Kangany here?" is answered in the negative, more often the question will be answered that there is a Penang recruiter here. There is no doubt that the Penang recruiter goes into the out of the way villages more than the Ceylon Kangany.

I went to one village a year ago, I made a point last week of going to that village again to ask the inhabitants if anyone from Ceylon had been there to ask about labour, I was told no, no one had been since my visit.

It would do so much good if more of the coolies that are contented in Ceylon could be made to write to their relatives and friends to tell them what they were doing, it is the same cry in almost all the villages "Coolies have gone from their villages and never been heard of since." I was at a village during my last camp and was told by a large crowd that if a certain man whom they gave me a letter from would come back to the village, a lot of them would go. Might I suggest that the Superintendents should give the coolies a certain number of stamped postcards to send to their friends and relations occasionally. There is, I am sorry to say, an impression in the villages that the water in Ceylon is not good, this could, I am sure, be remedied by having it mentioned on the notices that the water is pure." (This has been done C.L.C.)

Chittoor Circle.

The Assistant Commissioner, Mr. Rutherford Lee, during the year travelled 9,227 miles by rail and 1,590 miles by road. Owing to the large area over which he had to travel, a greater portion of this mileage was for inspection of Agencies. He, however, undertook some valuable camping work in the Cuddapah, Kurnool and North Arcot Districts and at my request got into touch with some of the Missionaries, notably Canon Inman at Kalsapad, in Giddalur Mr. Britten of the S.P.G. and in Cumbum Mr. Rockwood of the American Mission. All these Missionaries expressed approval of emigration to Ceylon. The quality and reliability of the work at the Agencies under the Assistant Commissioner's control has very largely improved, but this has only been brought about by a number of changes necessary in the staff of these Agencies.

CHITTOOR AGENCY.—This Agency has not done nearly so well as I hoped, principally because that for the greater part of the year many Superintendents and pro-

sumably, nearly all Kanganies and coolies seemed unaware of its existence in spite of the fact that its institution was advertised in the "Planting Gazette." Only a very few coolies came over with A. Form addressed to this Agency. 512 of those who came over were connected either with Katpadi or Chittoor Agencies, and though many of these were recruiting in the Chittoor District, most of them took their coolies away to Katpadi since to apply for transfer meant delay. The Agency has been in good hands and has been well managed during the year, and unless results during the forthcoming year are more satisfactory, it will either have to be closed or utilised merely as a Forwarding Agency to Katpadi. There has been all through the crop season a complete lack of water in the District and the prospects for the coming recruiting season are particularly bright.

KATPADI AGENCY.—This town is a hot-bed of professional recruiting and is the resort of a number of Kanganies who get their coolies only in this way. An Agent, Assistant Agent and a peon have been dismissed for having dealings with professional recruiters, and I trust the present Agent will do his best to avoid this, but I am quite aware that he has a difficult task before him. The question of removing this Agency to Polur will be considered during the new year as the number of coolies passed through it has declined since professional recruiting was disallowed. Katpadi was formerly looked upon as a favourite Agency, the reason now is obvious, seeing that many Kanganies go there in order to buy their coolies without going to the village at all.

ARKONAM AGENCY.—This is also the haunt of professional recruiters, but not to the same extent as Katpadi. It is impossible to move it to another place and all that can be done is to be more than usually strict about rejecting any coolies of whose *bona fides* there is the slightest suspicion. There is no doubt that exceptional strictness in this respect leads to discontent among Kanganies and the Agents are afraid of revenge in the shape of false complaints, but I feel sure that Superintendents will realise the possibility of this in considering the same in justice to my Agents. Estates may and do complain on occasions that they are losing coolies, but if they are to be saved from the loss of thousands of rupees per annum, this strictness is absolutely necessary and, after all, a Kangany is usually able to prove the *bona fides* of his coolies if he is at all anxious to do so. 264 coolies have come over to India in connection with this Agency, but nothing like that number have presented themselves. The number of coolies passed to Ceylon has decreased very considerably and I think this is still largely due to the fact that professionally recruited coolies, when recognised, are no longer accepted. A good many coolies come here from Putur since the Railway runs up through this taluk, I am glad to report that the working of this Agency has been entirely satisfactory in other respects.

CHINGLEPUT AGENCY.—More coolies and Kanganies have come back from Ceylon in connection with this Agency, but the figure shows a decrease in the number of

coolies forwarded. I attribute this chiefly to the large quantity of rain that this District has had. No other cause is apparent for the decrease and, though it is a small one, it is the first for some years. 736 coolies came from Ceylon. The working of the Agency has been generally good and it is one of the most valuable Agencies in the Circle.

VILLUPURAM AGENCY.—This is undoubtedly the most progressive Agency in the Chittoor Circle. Returns of coolies forwarded are always increasing. The number of Kanganies and others recruiting this year was 456. There have been a number of changes in the staff during the year and the work has sometimes not gone smoothly in consequence. The present staff is fairly capable one although there are still arrears to be made up. This Agency is well situated in an excellent recruiting District and should continue to be of great value to Ceylon, and to Estates who have connections in that District.

GUSTUR AGENCY.—There has been very little work at this Agency during the year and it has not received its support from Ceylon that it really deserves. Only 5 coolies have come back to recruit through this Agency but even this number shows that connections have been formed in the District sufficient to point to much larger returns in the near future. The Agency has been quite well managed and there have been no complaints.

GUNTAKAL AGENCY.—This Agency has done fairly well. A few Estates have formed connections through it and the old Hubli Agency and it is certainly of use by its position at an important Railway Junction. Recruiting in the Nizam's Dominions is unreliable and the Northern portion of Anantapur District does not appear to be a good recruiting ground. Only 19 Kanganies came from Ceylon during the year and most of them are loafing around Guntakal doing nothing. What work there has been at the Agency has been done in a haphazard and apparently despairing manner. A change of Agents has lately been effected.

CUDDAPAH AGENCY.—84 Kanganies and others came over to work in connection with this Agency. I believe the District gives good possibilities of getting labour, though it is somewhat sparsely populated. The returns show an increase in forwarding even without the special gang of 25 coolies obtained through the help of Canon Inman. The office has been well managed throughout the year and the work has run smoothly with few complaints. The Agent is an efficient officer and has a good knowledge of the District.

NELLORE AGENCY.—This has not been at all successful as illustrated by the number of coolies that have passed through during the year. 26 Kanganies and others came over from Ceylon, but only a third of these presented themselves again and the bolting average is very high. The continuance of this Agency during the forthcoming year will have to be considered. An Agency is certainly wanted somewhere in the District and a great deal of advertising ought to be done. There has been one change of Agent and the work of the Agency has gone quite

smoothly since then, but there has been little or nothing to do.

MADRAS TRANSPORTING AGENCY.—A change of Agents in charge of this Depot early in the year has been beneficial. The records are now well kept and the work is running smoothly. Coolies passing through Madras are being well looked after and safely despatched to Trichinopoly without hindrance.

Extract from the Chittoor Circle Assistant Commissioner's Report.

"A great portion of my time during the year has been taken up by the inspection of Agencies and that this work has been very necessary can be seen by the number of changes that have been made in the staff of these Agencies. The quality and reliability of the work at the Agencies has enormously improved. But indeed if I had not had to make all these visits I should not have gained very much information, for, although I did not camp in a district, it was during these visits that I was able to make enquiries about it.

The bulk of my camping work was done in North Arcot and in the adjacent parts of South Arcot and Chingleput Districts where by far the most recruiting goes on in this Circle. Had I not for four months been in charge of Salem Circle I should have been able to give much more attention to the Telugu Districts. It will be noted that I have only twice actually camped in these districts; once in Guntur and once in Cuddapah and Kurnool. There is a great deal more advertising wanted in all these districts.

I think the progress in the Telugu Districts has been all that could be expected considering how few have come over from Ceylon to exploit them.

In the Tamil Districts the progress during the year has not been marked except in South Arcot around Katpadi and Vellore shows signs of being worked out for the time and this may be a reason why Katpadi Agency does not show better figures. I have noticed a sort of laughing indifference in the village within 20 miles or so of these places. Katpadi is one of the oldest Agencies in the Commission. But there are parts in the South of North Arcot and the top of South Arcot that Ceylon has barely touched yet and there is plenty of room for progress there.

The recommendation that I wish most to reiterate concerning the Telugu Districts is that coolies recruited—the most trustworthy of them—should be sent back to recruit in their villages with a good story to tell and a little money within three or four months or very little longer. This is the best way to make the people trust one and to ensure a solid connection being formed. Not to do so destroys the faith of the villagers and the next time coolies are wanted they will not go. After all something of this sort was done when the old Tamil connections were newer.

Salem Circle.

During the year several changes were effected, Mr. Farquharson, the late Deputy Commissioner, being in charge until 1st May when Mr. Rutherford Lee, of the Chittoor Circle, assumed partial charge of the Circle in addition to his own until 1st September when Mr. E. V. B. Levinge was posted to duty. During the last 4 months of the year, the new Assistant Commissioner travelled no less than 2,746 miles on the work of this Commission, having also whilst at Headquarters covered 1,702 miles in Agency inspection for that Circle, in all he covered 4,448 miles. Several European Superintendents visited the Agencies in the Circle and in every case noted in the Visitors' Book their appreciation of the assistance rendered

to them in their recruiting operations or enquiries. I am glad to report that the present Assistant Commissioner since his assumption of charge of the Circle has vigorously advertised Ceylon during his tours by adopting the policy of thoroughly touring one taluk at a time to eventually get information regarding Ceylon emigration thoroughly into all the smaller villages all over his districts and advertise in the villages therein. Advantage has always been taken wherever possible of visiting a large town or village during the weekly bazaar and large number of notices were distributed in this way to thousands that had gathered together from all sides. By this method a large number must have found their way to outlying parts and cross country villages which it has not been possible up to the present to reach in person to advertise unless as I have previously suggested tents are supplied to Assistant Commissioners.

During the year there was very little rain for the most part all over the Salem District and crops, in a great many places, completely failed. The results during 1914 should therefore show some improvement. It does not seem to be universally known in Ceylon that there exists an Agency at Atur which would considerably facilitate registration for some Kanganies, as it is a good 32 miles from Salem. Penang and Singapore were spoken of a great deal as giving higher wages than Ceylon and where depots for the former exists preference is very often shown for these countries rather than Ceylon. Dharmapuri Taluk is worked up to a great extent by professional recruiters. This is a good taluk for recruiting, and the Assistant Commissioner reports that if the number of coolies who have gone from here to the Bibile Estates can be induced to communicate with their relations, it will be a very valuable advertisement as well as an inducement to others to go to Ceylon. When Hosur and Krishnagiri taluks have been toured over, as Tiruchengode and other have been the figures of Dharmapuri Agency should go up with a decided jump. It has not been possible for Mr. Levinge to do any extensive advertising in the Mysore State, but I hope that during 1914, he will be able to travel in a portion of this country especially where the weather reports are entirely favourable just now to recruiting. Plague in Nanjangud during the year rather upset recruiting. Portions of the Trichinopoly District that lie within the Salem Circle did fairly well. The class of cooly from Musiri taluk was a good agricultural one. Heavy rates are reported to have been paid by Kanganies for securing labour and there were some instances of borrowing money locally for advances, as the preliminary advance allowed them was insufficient. No doubt, in a prosperous District like Musiri, the cooly needs some substantial advance to induce him to leave his District. The Assistant Commissioner of this Circle again reports that the villagers complain that coolies who have gone to Ceylon fail to write to their relations and if this is more encouraged, it would in a great measure, back up the advertising done by this Commission. He also states that there are thousands of coolies in Ceylon who are regarded as completely lost or dead by their relations who have not heard of them

for years and years. His report as to the stamp of Kanganey recruiting is not very encouraging and he comments on the increasing unpopularity of this individual in the recruiting Districts.

Agencies.

SALEM AGENCY.—The returns from this Agency show a decrease. The fall may be attributed in the main to Kanganies who hitherto used this Agency, registering at one or other of the other two Agencies in the District, and also to several European recruiters in the vicinity who have sent from 300 to 400 coolies direct to Tataparai. The fall therefore is more or less of an artificial nature. Extensive advertising has been undertaken and the Agent himself visits villages and advertises Ceylon during the Assistant Commissioner's stay at Headquarters every month. This Agency is of considerable assistance and importance to Ceylon and was one of the first to be established. Bolting after registration is, I am glad to say, not very high.

ATUR AGENCY.—This has done fairly well, but the number of defaulting cases referred was more than double. Most of the coolies registered were family connections of Kanganies and bolting or rejection after registration has been consequently small. There has been some success in the defaulting cases.

NAMAKAL AGENCY.—This Agency was established some years ago but was transferred to Karur on account of Plague and then again re-opened at Namakal. The increase of coolies passed through this Agency is very substantial. The Agent has been very successful with regard to defaulting cases.

TURAIUR AGENCY.—This shows a considerable improvement over the previous year, which may be attributed to a good recruiting season on account of the failure of crops during the early part of the year. There was practically no bolting after registration and the class of coolies registered has been very good. There has been a considerable increase in the defaulting cases referred and the Agent and his staff have shown great success and hard work in this respect.

KUPPAM AGENCY.—This Agency was transferred from Bangalore on 1st December, 1913, for reasons that have already been reported. Ceylon has been freely advertised in the vicinity of this Agency by a European recruiter and it is hoped that the result will bear fruit in due course.

NANJANGUD AGENCY.—This is now the only Agency in the Mysore State, and was opened on 25th January, 1913. The results have been fairly satisfactory and I look for a considerable increase during 1914 on account of the transfer of Bangalore Agency to Kuppam and also when Ceylon has been freely advertised in the out-lying parts.

JOLARPET TRANSPORTING AGENCY.—During the year several changes of the staff of this Agency has been necessary to ensure its better working. Every train is met at the station both night and day and the interference of the professional recruiter has been in a great measure frustrated.

DHARMAPURI AGENCY.—This Agency shows a fair increase, but there are a few cases of bolting after registration owing to the interference on the part of outsiders or bogus gangs. There have been instances known of Ceylon Kanganies selling their coolies to recruiters of other countries on account of the high Commission paid and several paid off Kanganies and coolies have spread very bad reports about Ceylon in the vicinity. But as soon as these parts can be extensively advertised, a considerable increase should appear in the figures of this Agency.

MUSIRI AGENCY.—The figures for 1913 are far in excess of the previous year, and very fair success was obtained in defaulting cases. A great deal of the success in these cases is attributed to coolies giving one name on registration and another on their Estates and hence it is extremely difficult to trace out defaulters from the information given on B. Forms.

THIRUPATUR AGENCY.—The number of coolies that passed through during the year was almost the same as during 1912. The existence of this Agency is reported by some Kanganies as hardly known in Ceylon. Various changes have been made with regard to the staff of this Agency with the object of securing more satisfactory results and in consequence of complaints from Superintendents.

Visitors.

A number of gentlemen interested in this Commission visited Trichinopoly from time to time during the year, amongst whom were the following:—

Messrs. G. C. Bliss, Glenlyons; F. H. Layard, Chairman, Planters' Association of Ceylon; G. B. Armstrong, Auditor of Messrs. Ford, Rhodes Church & Co.; J. Wood, Browlow; W. Murray, Ugieside; B. G. McCloughin, Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly; Major D. C. Kemp, I.M.S. District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Trichinopoly; Stephen Davis, P.W.D. Engineer, Ceylon; F. Bowes, Chairman, Plague Committee, Ceylon; and L. E. Buckley, Collector, Trichinopoly.

Kuravas.

Throughout the recruiting Districts there exists criminal tribes of the Kuravas caste who have apparently subsisted for centuries on the proceeds of criminality. The Indian Government are about to put into force an Act which will enforce confinement of these Kuravas in settlements and at the same time afford them employment in mines or Government fields in order that they may be kept out of further mischief. As Government wages are small, and such confinement is not to the taste of this nomadic tribe advantage of emigration to Ceylon is apparently being taken. I very strongly recommend Superintendents to refrain from increasing their supply of labour from this source as there is very little probability of this generation settling down in Ceylon and in cases where these undesirable are recruited, pecuniary loss will inevitably result. There is little doubt that the Kuravas would ultimately revert to their old practices, a state of affairs which would

, highly undesirable for Ceylon generally as well as for those Estates concerned in their recruitment.

Ceylon Labour Commission Map.

During the year I have been engaged in drawing up a map of South India covered by the Ceylon Labour Commission for the use of subscribing estates which will afford much useful information as possible giving the Agencies, routes and the territory they control. When these maps are ready for circulation which should be in a few weeks, the fact will be advertised in the "Planting Gazette."

Advertisement.

During the year many thousand notices have been distributed throughout the recruiting districts. Schedules appended (Exhibit K.) giving districts and villages with the population of the latter which the Assistant Commissioners have passed through during the course of the year. Kanganies having connections in these Districts should be instructed to follow up this work.

Claimed Cooly Department.

There have been several cases during the year where natives have sought the return of coolies that have come over to Ceylon, and I have, after reference to the Superintendents concerned, secured the return of 49 men and 11 women, the coolies themselves having expressed desire to be repatriated. In many cases referred to this Department, coolies have declined to come back, a fact which speaks well for conditions in Ceylon generally. It is also satisfactory to note that in cases of emergency such as illness or distress of relatives in South India, Superintendents are ready to facilitate the return of coolies as they have done during the past year.

Recruiting Expenditure.

During the year a sum of Rs. 1,478,041 has been paid out on 97,564 coolies and Kanganies that have passed through this Commission, which work out at Rs. 15 per head. This total disbursement includes payment of the per head, meals and railfare, etc., to Tataparai, besides pre-advances paid to recruiters on A. Forms. It does not, however, of course, include advances paid direct to the Superintendents to recruiters. Owing to the fact that no proper records or statistics have been kept in past years, it is not possible to produce a comparative statement of any value. From 1st January, 1914, accurate statistical figures are being kept, which will give the actual number of new coolies recruited as distinct from old Ceylon coolies. During the year, 18,645 Kanganies returned to Ceylon after completion of their recruiting which brings the number of actual coolies recruited both old and new to 78,919 at a cost of Rs. 18.73, which includes the expenditure of the recruiters journey to Tataparai and in many cases both ways.

Administration Expenditure.

The total cost of the upkeep of this Commission for the past year amounts to Rs. 176,460-11-3 which works out at a sum of Rs. 1.81 per cooly registered at the Agencies.

Tin Tickets.

On occasion I have been written to by Superintendents requesting me to post them a supply of the above. These tickets are only procurable from the Ceylon Government and have nothing whatsoever to do with this Commission. They cover cost of the cooly's passage from the Ceylon Emigration Camps in South India to Ceylon Estates. In cases where Kanganies and coolies arrived at any of my Agencies without these tickets, a supply must be sent by the Superintendent of the estate on application from this office, otherwise full fares have to be paid from port of embarkation. It is possible for Superintendents to forward me supplies of tin tickets for specific Kanganies and these will be kept at Trichinopoly, Mandapam or Tataparai, and issued when required. All instructions with regard to the consignment of coolies from Ceylon Emigration Camp should be addressed to the Superintendents at Mandapam, Tataparai, Ammapatnam or Tondi, as the case may be. A tin ticket is not valid on the Indian Railways and no concession fares are allowed thereon. It takes currency only from Ceylon Government Emigration Camps.

Closing of Agencies.

Coconada and Tirur were closed, the former being too far afield and a sea-port, also the hunting ground of Penang recruiters, the latter in Malabar not justifying its existence. Bangalore was closed for reasons already stated. Hubli was closed being outside the boundary of the Madras Presidency and the stamp of cooly recruited therefrom being generally unsuitable for Ceylon Estates.

Agencies Opened.

Kuppam was opened in lieu of Bangalore. Under existing arrangements, it is not proposed to open any further Agencies, but the transfer of one or two others is under consideration, before any action is taken due notice will be given to avoid inconvenience to estates and Kanganies.

U. P. A. S. I.

At the courteous invitation of the Chairman of the above Association, I attended the Annual Meeting of the delegates during August. I am glad to think that the result of my visit has been to arrive at a better mutual understanding. I was able to assure the Planters of South India that recruiting within the Planting area of South Indian Estates by Ceylon recruiters would be effectively stopped if brought to my notice and if within my power to do so. I was glad of the opportunity to meet many of the leading Planters of the Presidency and to learn their views on labour matters generally. As a result of my visit I look forward to nothing but friendly rivalry between Ceylon and South India, and the prospect of our being able to amicably adjust any differences that may arise in the future. The chief feature of the Meeting was to consider the proposals to form a Labour Commission for South Indian Estates. Since that Meeting

these proposals have culminated in a scheme which at the time of writing appears to have every chance of going through. The planters of South India are thus organising to improve conditions of recruiting and attract the labour which is already at their doors, and propose to spend no less a sum than Rs. 2 an acre to accomplish what they are setting out to do. At the head of their Commission will be a gentleman whose ability and experience of the recruiting Districts of South India is second to none. During the year Ceylon has held its own in competition with other countries which has been as keen as usual, but with the South Indian organisation, an accomplished fact it will certainly be necessary to make strenuous efforts to keep pace with the situation. Assam now desires to come further South for her labour and Tamils are required for opening land and for the cultivation of tea in the hills of Burmah and lastly, we hear that Jamaica is entering the lists. Even the firm of Lever Bros. are looking towards the recruiting grounds of South India for assistance in the cultivation of the coconut (for the manufacture of their soaps) in the South Seas. There is thus every indication that unless we exert ourselves to a greater extent, we may be overtaken in the organised competition for labour in South India even with the good start we have already made by the establishment of a Labour Commission for the last ten years. There is much work to be done, advertising the increased attractions and improved conditions that undoubtedly exists on Ceylon Estates at the present time, together with the opening of the new Railway route to Ceylon with its short sea journey. More control of the Kanganies' operations in South India is essential. It is worth consideration whether an extension of our work in South India should not be brought about simultaneously with the present great movement in Ceylon to place the labour question on a more satisfactory basis.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly,
1st April, 1914.

GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE WORKING OF THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

Membership of Ceylon Labour Commission or the Coast Agency.

Estates willing to join the Ceylon Labour Commission or the Coast Agency should pay in advance an annual subscription of 30 cents per cultivated acre to the Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon, Kandy. This rate is subject to adjustment by the Coast Agency Committee from

Assistance will be afforded only to Estates subscribing to the Agency.

The Ceylon Labour Commission or Coast Agency has been established in South India in order to facilitate in every way the recruiting of agricultural labourers to Ceylon Estates. The Commission undertakes no direct recruiting, but the scope of the Commission consists in the following:—

Financing and assisting Kanganies who came over from Ceylon on recruiting expeditions on the orders of the Estate Superintendents.

Registering coolies at the various Agencies and forwarding them on to Ceylon. Passing them through the Depots, feeding and protecting them from molestation in every form as far as possible. Rejection of, medical unfit, minors, solitary women and undesirables.

Supervision of Kanganies sent over to recruit and furnishing reports to the estates from which they come.

Recruiting Prospects.

Furnishing information to the Coast Agency Committee and estates concerned as to labour conditions ruling in South India, and prospects of recruiting in various districts from month to month based on camping report furnished by the Controlling Staff.

Advertising Ceylon throughout the recruiting districts of South India, overlooking and criticism of all recruiting carried out in South India with the object of maintaining the good name of Ceylon, together with the enhancement of emigration to that Colony.

Recruiting Certificates.

These are supplied to every Kanganie signed by the Commissioner on arrival at the Agency to which he intends to bring in labourers. (Specimen is given under Exhibit J.)

Professional Recruiters.

This Commission does not in any way recognise Professional Recruiters and professionally recruited coolies brought in by Kanganies for registration at the Agency are as far as practicable discarded.

Railway Warrants.

By an arrangement this Commission has made with the Railway Authorities on this side, Commissioner's warrants are accepted for the Kanganies and coolies fares. They are entrained in Reserved Compartments safely conveyed and delivered at the Government Immigration depot at Tataparai cum Tuticorin for embarkation to Ceylon. Peons travel in charge of coolies, protecting them from molestation in every form.

Tin Tickets and Commission Cards.

Kanganies before leaving from the Coast should be supplied with sufficient tin tickets for their probable requirements, the number of the tin tickets being noted on the A. Form.

Commission Cards will only be issued for bona fide coolies, i.e., such coolies, over and above

number it was expected the Kanganies would bring, and for such excess coolies a separate card will be issued for each cooly.

The issue Commission Cards for excess coolies at least 60 per cent. of a gang must hold tin tickets, otherwise the excess coolies will be forwarded at full rates from Tataparai.

Pre-Advance.

The granting of a large pre-advance is neither necessary or desirable, except in special cases as the practice tends to undermine the good effect obtained by the reduction of the advance per head to Rs. 15 granted on registration of coolies.

On the other hand it is advisable to grant a small pre-advance as it ensures the attendance of the Kanganies at his nearest Agency for payment on arrival at the coast, which facilitates supervision of his activities and report to the Estate concerned. In no case it is necessary to give substantial advances on the estate prior to the Kanganies starting on his journeys as with the exception of his Ceylon Government Railway fare and steamer passage, his expenditure, incurred from Tuticorin to the Railway Station nearest to his village can be defrayed by the Commission on cards signed by the Superintendent giving authorization. These cards, as per specimen given (see Exhibit L.), can be had from Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly, on application.

Should Kanganies require advances in their villages, Officials can be sent out with funds for the purpose, but it is very rarely that the Kanganies are unable to attend at the nearest Agency and once the money has left the Agency, the Ceylon Labour Commission cannot be held responsible.

Medical Aid.

There is a Dispensary opened in the Trichy Central Depot presided over by a duly qualified Medical Officer who attends to the wants of the Kanganies and coolies. He also examines them as regards physical fitness for estate work before they are registered and despatched to the Estate in Ceylon.

Correspondence.

All business correspondence should be addressed to the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly, South India, and none direct to the Assistant Commissioners, the Accountant or the Agents.

LIST OF COMMISSION AGENCIES.

TAMIL AGENCIES.

Tinnevely District.

Area 4,353 square miles. Population 1,790,619. Language spoken, Tamil.

(1) TATAPARAI.—Twelve hours journey from Colombo by steamer, 10 miles from Tuticorin by rail. The office is

located in the Government Depot itself. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 0-1-9.

(2) TINNEVELLY.—Thirty-seven miles from Tuticorin and the Headquarters to the District. The office is near the Tinnevely Bridge Railway Station, and is only 5 minutes walk. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 0-7-9.

Madura District.

Area 4,916 square miles. Population 1,932,832. Language spoken, Tamil.

(3) MADURA.—Ninety-nine miles from Tuticorin and the Headquarters of the District. The office is located near Railway Station, and is only 5 minutes walk. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 1-1-0.

(4) DINDIGUL.—137 miles from Tuticorin and the Headquarters of the Deputy-Collector. The office is near the Railway Station and only 5 minutes walk. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 1-7-0.

(5) MANDAPAM.—1½ hours journey by steamer from Talaimannar and 1½ hours journey by rail from Danushkodi to Mandapam. Railfare from Colombo to Mandapam is Rs. 5-0-6.

(6) TONDUR.—Twenty-four hours journey by steamer from Colombo direct. The office is only 5 minutes walk from the beach.

Trichinopoly District.

Area 4,935 square miles. Population 2,017,029. Language spoken, Tamil.

(7) TRICHINOPOLY.—195 miles from Tuticorin, the Head of the Agency office is a quarter-of-an-hour's walk from Junction Station. The Commissioner, Accountant and Deputy Commissioner, reside here, and his office is close by to the Agency. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-1-0.

(8) MUSIRI.—221 miles from Tuticorin nearest Railway Station Kulitalai. During flood people have to cross the river Cauvery by boat to go over to Musiri from Kulitalai. The office is within 5 minutes walk from the river bed. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-8-9.

(9) TURAIYUR.—243 miles from Tuticorin, and 28 miles from Trichy by road, no railway communication. Carts are always available. The office is located in the village Munsiff's house itself.

(10) KARUR.—243 miles from Tuticorin and 48 miles from Trichy. The office is located near Railway Station. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-8-9.

(11) MANAPARAI.—172 miles from Tuticorin and 23 miles from Trichy. The office is located near Railway Station. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 1-13-0.

(12) NAMAKAL.—243 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Deputy Collector. Nearest Railway Station Karur. 22 miles from Karur by cart road. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-8-9.

Coimbatore District.

Area 7,196 square miles. Population 2,116,564. Language spoken, Tamil.

(13) **ERODE.**—283 miles from Tuticorin and 88 miles from Trichy. Headquarters of the Sub-Collector. The office is located near Konavaikal, and is only 5 minutes walk from the Railway Station. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-12-0.

Salem District.

Area 6,300 square miles. Population 1,766,680. Language spoken, Tamil.

(14) **SALEM.**—320 miles from Tuticorin, 37 miles from Erode. The office is located in the town itself. The nearest Railway Station is Sooramangalam, 3 miles off. Jutkas are available near the Railway Station to take passengers to town. Headquarters of the Assistant Commissioner in charge of Salem Circle. Railfare from Tuticorin Rs. 3-1-0.

(15) **ATUR.**—320 miles from Tuticorin, nearest Railway Station, Salem. 33 miles from Salem by cart road. Carts are always available.

(16) **DHARMAPURI.**—308 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Sub-Magistrate. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-7-0.

(17) **TIRUPATUR.**—300 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Sub-Magistrate. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-10-0.

(18) **JOLARPET.**—395 miles from Tuticorin. Coolies from Nanjangud and Kuppam Agencies are transhipped at this station.

North Arcot District.

Area 4,920 square miles. Population 1,960,960. Language spoken, Tamil.

(19) **KATPADI.**—445 miles from Tuticorin and 100 miles from Villupuram. The office is on the other side of the Railway Station, and only 5 minutes walk. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-0-0.

(20) **ARKONAM.**—448 miles from Tuticorin, 70 miles from Madras and 39 miles from Chingleput. The office is located near Railway Station and only 3 minutes walk. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-1-0.

(21) **KUPPAM.**—415 miles from Tuticorin and 22 miles from Jolarpet. The office is located near Railway Station. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-1-0.

South Arcot District.

Area 4,208 square miles. Population 2,362,566. Language spoken, Tamil.

(22) **VILLUPURAM.**—345 miles from Tuticorin. This is a Junction Station to change trains to Katpadi side. The office is located near Railway Station and only 5 minutes walk. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-4-0.

Tanjore District.

Area 3,727 square miles. Population 2,363,689. Language spoken, Tamil.

(23) **TANJORE.**—226 miles from Tuticorin and 31 miles from Trichy. The office is located near Railway Station in

a garden and only 3 minutes walk. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-5-0.

(24) **AMMAPATNAM.**—Thirty hours journey by steamer from Colombo direct. The office is located near beach.

Chingleput District.

Area 3,072 miles. Population 1,406,008. Language spoken, Tamil.

(25) **CHINGLEPUT.**—409 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Sub-Collector and the Junction Station to Arkonam Branch. The office is located in the town, and only 10 minutes walk from Railway Station. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-12-0.

Puducottah State.

Area 1,178 miles. Population 411,886. Language spoken, Tamil.

(26) **PUDUCOTTAH.**—228 miles from Tuticorin, and 3 miles from Trichy by road. There is a motor service a day. Carts are available always. The office is located opposite Post Office. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-1-0.

TELUGU AGENCIES.**Chittoor District.**

Area 5,676 miles. Population 1,288,742. Language spoken, Telugu.

(27) **CHITTOOR.**—464 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Assistant Commissioner in charge of Chittoor Circle. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-4-0.

Madras District.

Area 27 square miles. Population 518,660. Language spoken, Telugu.

(28) **MADRAS.**—446 miles from Tuticorin, the Presidency town, the third city in India. Telugu coolies are transhipped here. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-0-0.

Guntur District.

Area 5,735 square miles. Population 1,697,551. Language spoken, Telugu.

(29) **GUNTUR.**—735 miles from Tuticorin, 288 miles from Madras and 20 miles from Bezvada. The office is located near the Railway Station. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 7-11-0.

Cuddapah District.

Area 5,892 square miles. Population 893,998. Language spoken, Telugu.

(30) **CUDDAPAH.**—609 miles from Tuticorin and 116 miles from Arkonam. The office is located near Railway Station and it is only 10 minutes walk. Railfare Rs. 5-4-0.

Nellore District.

Area 7,973 square miles. Population 1,328,152. Language spoken, Telugu.

(31) **NELLORE.**—547 miles from Tuticorin. The office is located within half-a-mile from the Railway Station. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 5-7-0.

Anantapur District.

Area 6,718 square miles. Population 963,223. Language spoken, Telugu.

(32) GUNTAKAL.—723 miles from Tuticorin and 276 miles from Madras. The office is located near Railway station. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 6-7-9.

CANARESE AGENCIES.**Mysore Province.**

Area 4,128 square miles. Population 1,227,061. Language spoken, Canarese.

(33) NANJANGUD.—581 miles from Tuticorin and 199 miles from Jolarpet. The office is located near Railway station. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 5-9-6.

MALAYALAM AGENCIES.**Malabar District.**

Area 5,794 square miles. Population 3,015,119. Language spoken, Malayalam.

(34) PALGHAT.—376 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Assistant Commissioner in charge of Palghat Circle. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-8-0.

(35) CANNANORE.—508 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Sub-Magistrate. Railfare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-8-0.

CIRCLES GIVING THE AGENCIES INCLUDED :**Trichinopoly Circle.**

Controlled from Headquarters.

1. Trichinopoly
2. Tanjore
3. Pudukottah
4. Manapalai
5. Tataparai
6. Tinnevely
7. Ammapatnam
8. Tondi
9. Mandapam
10. Jetty Agency, Tuticorin
11. Colombo Forwarding Agency

Palghat Circle.

Controlled by 1st Asst. Commissioner.

12. Erode
13. Dindigul
14. Madura
15. Karur
16. Palghat
17. Cannanore

Chittoor Circle.

Controlled by 2nd Asst. Commissioner.

18. Chingleput
19. Arkonam
20. Villupuram
21. Katpadi
22. Cuddappah
23. Nellore
24. Guntur
25. Chittoor
26. Guntakal
27. Madras (Transporting Agency)

Salem Circle.

Controlled by 3rd Asst. Commissioner.

28. Salem
29. Kuppam (formerly Bangalore)
30. Tirupatur
31. Namakal
32. Dharmapuri
33. Atur
34. Nanjangud
35. Turaiyur
36. Musiri
37. Jolarpet (Transporting Agency)

SCHEDULE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF MILES COVERED BY COMMISSIONER, DEPUTY AND ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS DURING THEIR CAMPING IN 1913.

	By Rail.	By Road.	Total.
1. Ceylon Labour Commissioner...	4496	457	4953
2. Deputy Commissioner (late) Mr. H. Farquharson ...	3001	711	3712
3. Deputy Commissioner, Mr. N. H. M. Bowden ...	1340	66	1406
4. Asst : Commissioner, Chittoor	9227	1590	10817
5. do do Salem ...	2283	1514	3797
6. do do Palghat	5890	801	6691
7. do do (late) Mr. W. Ferguson ...	1118	160	1278
Total.	27355	5299	32654

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF COOLIES DESPATCHED FROM EACH DISTRICT DURING 1912 and 1913.

	1912.	1913.		
1. Trichinopoly ...	43001	46252	Increase	3251
2. Madura ...	12478	11990	Decrease	488
3. Tanjore ...	3549	3836	Increase	287
4. North Arcot (includes Telugus)	6581	5887	Decrease	694
5. Tinnevely ...	7515	9665	Increase	2150
6. Coimbatore ...	2419	2145	Decrease	274
7. Telugu Districts ...	1522	1952	Increase	430
8. Salem ...	3241	2627	Decrease	614
9. South Arcot ...	4421	4836	Increase	415
10. Chingleput ...	3812	3741	Decrease	71
11. Mysore Province.	448	489	Increase	41
12. Pudukottah State	3172	2560	Decrease	612
13. Malabar ...	1443	1538	Increase	95
14. Dharwar (Bombay Presidency)	323	46	Decrease	277
	93925	97564	Increase	3639

TOTAL NO. OF COOLIES DESPATCHED TO THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS
OF CEYLON IN 113.

Alagala	...	...	310
Ambegamuwa	...	...	1070
Badulla	...	...	3068
Balangoda	...	...	2213
Dikoya	...	...	4627
Do Lower	...	...	1763
Dimbula	...	...	7782
Dolosbage	...	...	2384
Dumbura	...	...	349
Galagedera	...	...	317
Galle, including Ambalangoda, Elpitiya and Udugama	...	...	1836
Hantane	...	...	725
Haputale	...	...	3649
Haputale West	...	...	303
Hewaheta Lower	...	...	647
Hewaheta Upper	...	...	579
Hunaseriya	...	...	424
Kadugannawa	...	...	542
Kalutara	...	...	11172
Kegalla, including Polgahawela	...	...	3921
Kelani Valley	...	...	15657
Kelebokka	...	...	579
Knuckles	...	...	794
Kotmale	...	...	1197
Kurunegalia	...	...	1241
Madulsima and Hewa Eliya	...	...	2420
Maskeliya	...	...	3076
Matale East and Laggala	...	...	998
Matale North	...	...	1624
„ South	...	...	765
„ West	...	...	1519
Maturata, including Kurunda Oya Valley	...	...	1140
Medamahanuwara	...	...	201
Moneragala	...	...	588
Morawak Korale	...	...	642
New Galway or Wilson's Bungalow	...	...	329
Nilambe	...	...	1168
Nitre Cave	...	...	151
Nuwara Eliya	...	...	888
Passara	...	...	1272
Pundaloya	...	...	782
Pussellawa	...	...	1272
Rakwana	...	...	766
Ramboda	...	...	736
Rangalla	...	...	474
Ratnapura	...	...	7599
Udappussellawa	...	...	1232
Walapane Lower	...	...	84
Wattegama and Panwila	...	...	439
Yekdessa	...	...	250
Total	...	...	97564

DIFFERENT CASTE OF COOLIES DESPATCHED TO CEYLON
DURING 1913.

Vellalas	...	...	12194
Kallias	...	...	7800
Ambalakarans	...	...	21813
Pariabs	...	...	22461
Pallas	...	...	14814
Cobblers	...	...	4995

Dhoby	...	...	...	2659
Canarese	...	...	...	2967
Telugus	...	...	...	4780
Malayalees	...	...	...	1295
Mohammedans	...	...	...	1786

Total ... 97564

COMPARATIVE COOLY STATISTICS STATEMENT.

Coolies despatched from all Agencies to end of			
December,			
	1905	...	41461
	1906	...	28201
	1907	...	22159
	1908	...	47543
	1909	...	35704
	1910	...	64809
	1911	...	72549
	1912	...	93925
	1913	...	97564
Total	...	...	503915

TOTAL NUMBER OF A. FORM KANGANIES ARRIVED AT ALL
AGENCIES FOR ASSISTANCE.....27723.

January	...	...	137
February	...	...	2158
March	...	...	4099
April	...	...	3643
May	...	...	3080
June	...	...	2466
July	...	...	2601
August	...	...	2289
September	...	...	2179
October	...	...	1305
November	...	...	1480
December	...	...	1106
Total	...	...	27723

TOTAL NUMBER OF A. FORM KANGANIES RETURNED TO
CEYLON AFTER COMPLETION OF RECRUITING DURING
1913.....18645.

2. CORRESPONDENCE :—

(a.) LETTERS :— (Inland)	
Total No. of letters received, over	17992
Total No. of letters replied about	21545
(b.) LETTERS :— (Ceylon)	
Total No. of letters received excluding A. Forms	9794
Total No. of letters replied about	18513
(c.) TELEGRAMS :— (Inland)	
Wires received	1980
Wires despatched	2173
(d.) TELEGRAMS :— (Ceylon)	
Wires received	1100
Wires despatched	2477

EXHIBIT A.

18 Comparative Statement showing total number of A. Forms received in each month during the years 1912 and 1913.

Serial No.	MONTH.	Total No. of A. Forms.	
		1912.	1913.
1	January	... 1190	1317
2	February	... 1902	2158
3	March	... 3237	4099
4	April	... 2897	3643
5	May	... 2239	3080
6	June	... 2130	2466
7	July	... 2101	2601
8	August	... 2108	2289
9	September	... 2295	2179
10	October	... 1798	1305
11	November	... 1219	1480
12	December	... 1410	1106
Total		... 24526	27723

} 652 Decrease

EXHIBIT B.

Village Debts.

No. L. 15.

Chittoor Circle,
2nd February, 1914.

THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,
Trichinopoly.

DEAR SIR,

I have to thank you for your letter of the 22nd ultimo enclosing copies of correspondence on the above subject between yourself and the Assistant Commissioner of Salem Circle.

Before proceeding with this subject it is necessary to premise that, when I speak of debts I speak of those of coolies or possible coolies, and particularly of the debts of those who have nothing to offer in the way of security for them. Those who owe money on the security of land I shall dispose of first, merely in order to wipe them out of the question.

When I speak of "debts per head" I speak of the division per head of the amount collectively owed by a gang of coolies presented for registration at an Agency, since that, with the proviso that minors are entitled only to half rates, is the intention of the order on A. Forms.

Broadly speaking there are three ways in which a man may owe money:—1. On Land, 2. On Jewellery, 3. On Personal Security.

If the money is owed on land the holder of the mortgage generally asks for some small amount to be paid to him when the owner of the land goes away, and he will usually take what he can get. Occasionally it so happens

that a man's land is so deeply mortgaged that he simply goes away and leaves it in the possession of his creditors. In both of these cases Rs. 1,000 or more may easily be owed, but there is no necessity for it to be paid.

Sometimes jewellery has been pledged to raise money for some pressing need and if the amount owed is as much as, or more than, the collective advance due to the coolies by A. Form instructions, this might be considered as a special case to be enquired into by the Agent and then permission obtained from the Superintendent to pay the extra amount.

The case left to consider, then, is that of the cooly who has no assets beyond his family and the work produced by it and himself for, I think, that in most cases it is the family that is the security for borrowing and the capacity of a single man to borrow is very slight.

In no single instance where I have asked intimate questions about a given person has the debt worked out at anything like Rs. 10 per head and the result of general investigation shows that it is seldom that a man will be advanced more than the value of Rs. 10.

In North Arcot and Chittoor Districts it is the Reddis (Rayats) who advance the money. This money is advanced on work to be done, and Rs. 12 is the highest that will ordinarily be advanced to any man. I believe this also applies to Chingleput, though here I was told more than once that it is marriages that get people into debt, otherwise a man need not consider himself indebted.

In Guntur District also, so far as I have been able to discover, Rs. 10 would usually easily cover the amount of debts per head.

In Cuddapah and Kurnool Districts the borrowing is usually done from the Komatis and shopkeepers generally. I am given to understand that feudalism is rapidly dying out in these parts and is only to be found in scattered places. Here the poor people can borrow very little, and, I believe, that Rs. 5 will cover the average debt per head. I have heard it regretted that the old feudalism is dying out because when a man more or less belonged to the landowner he was always sure of food for himself and his family, whereas now people have to starve because they cannot borrow. I believe the same thing will apply in Anantapur District, but I have had no opportunity of making investigation there. In Nellore and South Arcot Districts also I have as yet had no opportunity for proper investigation.

The above is the result so far of my enquiries under this head and I have no belief in the frequent occurrence of enormous debts that must be paid before the coolies may leave the village. I believe that if the A. Form rate were reduced to Rs. 10 in Chittoor Circle it would do no harm to *bona fide* recruiting, and it would by so much reduce the incentive to bogus coolies and others to try and get money under false pretences and by so much reduce the total amount of loss of money paid out to those who still did so.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

EXHIBIT C.**ABSTRACT SHOWING BOLTING, REJECTION OF COOLIES.**

FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.

Agencies.	Total No. registered.	Total No. bolted.	Total amount advanced.	Total amount recovered.	Total loss Involved.	Percentage.
HEADQUARTER CIRCLE:—						
1. Trichinopoly	39,507	404	4,464 9 0	1,322 15 0	3,141 10 0	1.01%
2. Tanjore	2,486	60	750 0 0	223 0 0	527 0 0	2.41%
3. Pudukottah	2,560	60	662 8 0	45 0 0	617 8 0	2.34%
4. Manaparai	2,816	174	1,758 8 0	442 8 0	1,316 0 0	6.18%
5. Tataparai	6,670	72	820 15 5	451 8 0	369 7 5	1.08%
6. Tinnevely	2,995	73	948 0 0	563 3 0	384 13 0	2.43%
7. Ammapatnam	1,350	1	15 0 0	— — —	15 0 0	.01%
8. Tondi	2,696	1	5 0 0	— — —	5 — —	.03%
9. Pamban	645	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	—
	61,725	845	9,424 8 5	3,048 2 0	6,376 6 5	1.37%
CHITTOOR CIRCLE:—						
10. Chingleput	3,741	400	4,392 0 0	1,278 10 6	3,113 5 6	10.69%
11. Arkonam	2,415	312	3,837 8 0	1,167 12 0	2,669 12 0	12.92%
12. Villupuram	4,836	341	3,816 11 0	897 6 7	2,919 4 5	7.05%
13. Katpadi	3,273	323	4,199 0 0	585 0 0	3,614 0 0	9.87%
14. Cuddapah	610	20	225 0 0	80 0 0	145 0 0	3.28%
15. Nellore	194	31	322 8 0	75 0 0	247 8 0	15.98%
16. Guntur	182	18	210 0 0	— — —	210 0 0	9.89%
17. Chittoor	133	13	213 11 0	15 0 0	198 11 0	9.77%
18. Guntakal	775	123	1,665 0 0	275 0 0	1,390 0 0	15.87%
	16,159	1,581	18,881 6 0	4,373 13 1	14,507 8 11	9.78%
SALEM CIRCLE:—						
19. Salem	1,772	63	545 1 0	210 14 0	334 3 0	3.55%
20. Kuppam (formerly Bangalore)	291	68	960 9 9	199 0 9	761 9 0	23.37%
21. Tirupatur	199	38	502 8 0	62 8 0	440 0 0	19.09%
22. Namakal	700	29	325 0 0	88 0 0	237 0 0	4.14%
23. Dharmapuri	366	81	953 0 0	199 10 0	753 6 0	22.13%
24. Atur	489	17	197 0 0	41 8 0	155 8 0	3.48%
25. Nanjangud	212	53	765 0 0	45 0 0	720 0 0	25.00%
26. Turaiyur	935	17	127 13 0	67 13 0	60 0 0	1.82%
27. Musiri	1,081	44	330 0 0	15 0 0	315 0 0	4.07%
	6,045	410	4,705 15 9	929 5 9	3,776 10 0	6.78%
PALGHAT CIRCLE:—						
28. Erode	2,145	203	2,319 0 0	724 8 0	1,594 8 0	9.46%
29. Dindigul	3,016	149	1,814 2 0	273 2 0	1,541 0 0	4.94%
30. Madurai	5,633	377	4,692 8 0	2,173 10 0	2,518 14 0	6.69%
31. Karur	1,213	90	860 5 6	183 2 3	677 3 3	7.42%
32. Palghat	1,204	55	787 8 0	135 0 0	652 8 0	4.56%
33. Cannanore	313	32	315 0 0	95 0 0	220 0 0	10.22%
	13,524	906	10,788 7 6	3,584 6 3	7,204 1 3	6.70%
	97,453	3,742	43,800 5 8	11,935 11 1	31,864 10 7	3.84%

EXHIBIT D. (1).

DEFAULTING CASE STATEMENT FOR 1913.

Agencies.	No. of cases referred.	No. of Defaulters Despatched.	The Debts of the bolters Despatched.	Amount recovered in Cash.	Amount recovered in fresh bonds.	Total.
iraiyur	150	21	3,875 14 0	4,906 12 4	1,912 10 0	10,695 4 4
usiri	165	20	4,238 14 9	1,607 7 7	170 9 6	6,016 15 10
ichy	238	19	4,681 13 3	1,599 4 9	985 0 0	7,266 2 0
adura	190	17	4,426 9 9	236 0 0	87 0 0	4,749 9 9
anaparai	70	19	3,809 12 9	232 8 0	513 2 10	4,555 7 7
nnevelly	70	12	716 8 6	845 0 0	148 0 0	1,009 8 6
indigul	60	15	5,023 4 6	184 0 0	— — —	5,207 4 6
iducottah	129	10	2,954 2 3	555 7 2	729 1 8	4,238 11 1
arur	65	10	1,284 5 3	— — —	— — —	1,284 5 3
amakal	137	18	2,240 0 0	250 0 0	— — —	2,490 0 0
tur	125	8	2,477 8 0	258 0 0	195 0 0	2,930 8 0
illupuram	120	2	600 13 0	347 10 0	45 0 0	993 7 6
bingleput	71	2	459 9 0	— — —	— — —	459 9 0
atpadi	78	14	2,888 3 0	— — —	— — —	2,888 3 0
ajore	250	8	1,957 14 0	— — —	— — —	1,957 14 0
hittoor	14	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
adras	7	—	— — —	135 0 0	— — —	135 0 0
rode	70	3	686 8 0	— — —	— — —	686 8 0
ilem	145	—	— — —	105 4 0	110 0 0	215 4 0
rkonam	29	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
untur	5	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
ondi	37	8	1,290 0 0	— — —	— — —	1,290 0 0
mmapatnam	10	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
ataparai	20	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
alghat	3	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
nnanore	4	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
ngalore	7	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
umban	7	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
harmapuri	8	—	— — —	23 0 0	— — —	23 0 0
rupatur	12	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
iddapah	2	—	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
	2,298	201	43,611 12 0	10,585 6 4	4,895 8 0	59,092 10 4

There is an excess sum of Rs. 1,794-9-8 over the total amount of debt recovered in cash from defaulters.

This is accounted by liquidation of debts by defaulters in kind.

EXHIBIT D. (2).**Statement of the Defaulting Case Section for the Year 1913.**

Total No. of Cases referred to the Commission 2,298 involving 5,240 defaulters.

SUCCESS.

201	defaulters were traced and despatched to the Estates whose debts amounting to	...	...	Rs. 43,611-75
659	defaulters were persuaded to repay their debts, viz.	...	...	„ 12,380-00
452	defaulters have executed fresh bonds, sale deeds, etc.	...	...	„ 4,895-50
Total				Rs. 60,887-25

DISPOSALS.

556	defaulters are reported to have left for Penang, Federated Malay States, Rangoon, etc.
791	defaulters could not be traced owing to the incorrect and insufficient address.
950	defaulters denied all liability to the Estate. In most of the cases, there were neither pronotes nor accounts to confront their indebtedness to the Estate before the Village Officials.
364	defaulters are said to be wandering in Ceylon itself without returning to the Coast.
120	defaulters are reported to have left for the Eastern and Western Ghats and other places.
458	defaulters are traced and have promised to amicably settle their accounts shortly by either returning to the Estate or liquidating their debts.
689	defaulters are still to be traced. Some are hiding and some are under investigation.

BOLTING CASES IN 1912.

174	bolters were secured and despatched to the Estates whose debts amounted to...	...	...	Rs. 34,669-0
514	bolters paid their debts amounting to	...	...	„ 8,957-0
1,912	bolters have given fresh bonds amounting to	...	...	„ 5,730-0
Total				Rs. 49,376-00

EXHIBIT D. (3)**DEFAULTING CASE SECTION.**

THE FOLLOWING HEAVILY INDEBTED KANGANIES ABSCONDED FROM THEIR ESTATES WERE TRACED AND DESPATCHED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE ESTATES IN THE YEAR 1913.

ESTATE.	KANGANY.	DEBT.
1. Hunasgeria	Veerapathiran	2300-00
2. Higgoda	Veeramalay	2133-68
3. Dunsinane	Ramaswamy	2086-17
4. Sapumalkande	Swaminathan	2025-00
5. Meddebedde	Anthony	1704-73
6. Galphele	Alagan	1509-87
7. Hylton	Ramaswamy	1217-35
8. Knavesmire	Palany	1152-85
9. Udagoda	Ramaswamy	900-00
10. Matale West	Rengaswamy	785-00
11. Dunkeld	Rengaswamy alias Ratna Koundan	747-30
12. Mirishena	Sandappan	771-00
13. Kolapatna	Raman	700-00

TRANSFERABLE. பிரத்தியாருக்கு செல்லத்தக்கதல்ல.

சிலோன லேபர் கமிஷன், திருச்சிநாப்பள்ளி.

CRUISING FOR _____ ESTATE _____ POST OFFICE CEYLON.
 வான் போண்டு ஆபீசுக்கு அருகாமையிலுள்ள.....தொட்டத்திற்கு, கவியாடகன் சேர்க்கை.

1. Tea or Rubber Estates. தேயிலை அல்லது ரப்பர் தோட்டங்களுக்கு :—

1. Tea or Rubber Estates.		தேயிலை அல்லது ரப்பர் தோட்டங்களுக்கு :—	Rs. ரூ.	As. அ.	Ps. பை.
Wages paid to men per diem	ஒரு நாளைக்கு ஆண் ஆட்களுக்குக் கூலி	...			
" to women per diem	பெண் ஆட்களுக்குக் கூலி	...			
" to boys & girls	பையன்களுக்குச் சிறு பெண்களுக்கும் கூலி	...			
Tea or Rubber Factory coolies.	தேயிலை அல்லது ரப்பர் தோட்டங்களுக்கான கூலியாட்களுக்கு	...			
Wages paid to men per diem	ஒரு நாளைக்கு 1 ஆண் ஆட்களுக்குக் கூலி	...			

[N. B.—Wages should be entered in *annas* and *pies* and not in *cents*.]

2. Coolies can earn extra wages without working over time.

சூழித்த நோக்திற்ரு மேற்பட்டு வேலை செய்யாமலே அதிக கூலி சம்பாதிக்கலாம்
Sunday wages paid in cash.

ஞாயற்றுக்கிழமை வேலை செய்யும் கூலிகையே கொடுக்கப்படும்.

3. A good family (a man, woman and working child) can earn easily Rs.....to Rs.....per mensem.

ஒரு புருஷன் பெண்சாதி வேலை செய்யக்கூடிய ஒரு பிள்ளையுடைய ஒரு தல்ல குடும்பம் மாதம் 1-க்கு

.....முதல் ரூ.....வரையில் சுளுவாய் சம்பாதிக்கலாம்.

4. Wages are paid monthly direct into the coolies' hands by the Estate Superintendent.

மாதாந்தர சம்பளங்களை தோட்டத்து துரையால் கவுன்சில் செயலேயே செலவழித்துக் கொள்ளும் முறை இப்போது இல்லை. இவைகள் எல்லாம் தனியாகக் கவுன்சில் அக்கவுண்ட்ஸ் வைத்துக் கொண்டு, அதிலிருந்து செலவழிக்கப்படும் முறை இப்போது இல்லை. இவைகள் எல்லாம் தனியாகக் கவுன்சில் அக்கவுண்ட்ஸ் வைத்துக் கொண்டு, அதிலிருந்து செலவழிக்கப்படும் முறை இப்போது இல்லை.

5. Coolies' Accounts are generally maintained by the Estate Superintendent.

6. All grievances are immediately enquired into and redressed by the Estate Superintendent. He is always accessible to the coolies and understands the vernacular.

எல்லா முறைப்பாடுகளையும் தோட்டத்து துறாடனே விசாரணைசெடுத்து பரிகாரம் செய்வார், தோட்டத்து துரையே விவரங்கள் எப்பொழுதும் நேரில் பார்க்கக்கூடும். அங்குக்கு கூலிகளுடைய பாஷை தெரியும்.

7. Coolies wishing to write or send money to their villages will be assisted by the Estate Superintendent. Government Savings bank is situated close to the estate.

068 Savings Bank is situated in the town of ...
தங்கள் ஸ்தாபனம் பணம், கமிட்டி முதலியன அனுப்ப ஆசைப்படும் கவியாட்சுரு தோட்டத்து தனா உதவி செய்வார்
பாண்டிச்சேர் பாங்கி தோட்டத்திற்கு அருகாமையிலுள்ளது.

8. Free quarters, medical aid, fire wood and vegetable gardens are provided.

8. Free quarters, medical aid, and other facilities will be available to all personnel who are employed by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

9. The climate is good and good drinking well water is available.

சவுகரியமான இடமும், குடிசை நல்ல கணற்று ஜலம் கிடைக்கும்.

10. Coolies can have their own form of worship and celebrate their festivals in their usual way. Free schools are provided for coolies' children.

கூலியாட்கள் தங்கள் சங்கம் மதக்கொள்கைப்படி தேவாராதனை செய்யலாம். திருநாள் உற்சவமும் அவர்கள் மக்கம்போலக் கொண்டாடலாம். கூலியாட்கள் குழந்தைகள் படிக்க பள்ளிக்கூடங்களிலுக்கிறதா.

11. Working tools, baskets and implements are supplied free of charge.

வேலை செய்வதற்கு வேண்டிய கூடை முதலிய சாமான்களை இனாமாகக் கொடுக்கப்படும்.

12. Good rice and curry stuffs, &c., are supplied to coolies at low rates.

13. All coolies are properly registered at the Ceylon Labour Commission Agencies and their relations can always obtain information about them on application.

எல்லா கூலியாட்சுகளும் சிலேன் லேபர் கமிஷன் ஏஜன்ஸிகள் உள்ள இடங்களில் தாக்கல் செய்யப்படுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய சொந்தக்காரர் இந்த ஏஜன்ஸிகள் வழியாய் அவர்களைப்பற்றி விபரம் தெரிந்துகொள்ளலாம்.

14. Recruiting for Ceylon is free and unconditional and there is no indenture.

14. Recruiting for Ceylon is not a new thing. It has been going on since the days of the British. It is a well-known fact that the British recruited a large number of Ceylonese for the Indian Army. It is a well-known fact that the British recruited a large number of Ceylonese for the Indian Army. It is a well-known fact that the British recruited a large number of Ceylonese for the Indian Army.

15. The Ceylon Labour Commission takes every care from the time of registration until the time of embarkation and protects the coolies as far as possible from extortion and maltreatment. Every facility is offered by the Estate Superintendent to gangany and coolies to proceed to their villages to see their relations and recruit coolies.

சிலோனா குழு கூலியாட்கள் சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் முதற்கொண்டு அவர்கள் கப்பலெருகிற வரையில் அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டியதெல்லாம் குறையில்லாமல் நடப்பதுமன்றி, கங்காணி முதலியோரால் இழைக்கப்படாமலும் பொருள் ஊட்டப்படாமலும் பாதுகாக்கப்படுவார்கள். தங்கள் தங்கள் ஊர்களுக்குப் போய் தங்கள் சொந்தக்காரரைப் பார்வுவு, கூலியாட்கள் சேர்க்கவும் வேண்டிய சவுகரியங்கடெல்லாம் கங்காணிகளுக்கும் கூலியாட்களுக்கும் தோட்டத்து வாயரால் கொடுக்கப்படும்.

16. Concession passag, &c. வழிப்பயணம் முதலிய சங்கீதன்.

16. Concession passage, &c. வழிப்பயாணம் முதலிய சங்கீதிகள்.

17. Bearer

kangany is recruiting coolies for this Estate.

-ESTATE.

Superintendent. தோட்டத்து துரை கையொப்பம்.

Ceylon Labour Commission.

NOTICE.

அ தி க் கை.

1. Coolies are not to be recruited in the neighbourhood of tea, coffee and rubber estates in South India.

2. Minors and married women are not to be recruited without the consent of their parents or husbands under pain of incurring imprisonment.

3. Coolies are not to be taken from professional recruiters.

4. In case of any difficulty, you may represent personally or by post or by telegraph to the Ceylon Labour Commissioner at Trichinopoly who will give his attention to your complaints.

5. Objectionable coolies should not be recruited. But if you do so you will be answerable for the offence.

H. Scoble Nicholson,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

1. தென்னிந்தியாவிலே உள்ள தேயிலை, காப்பி, ரப்பர் தோட்டங்களின் அருகாமையில் கூலிமாட்களை சேர்க்கக்கூடாது.

2. மைனர்களையும், கலியாணம் ஆன பெண் பிள்ளைகளையும் தாய் தகப்பன் அனுமதியின்றியும் அல்லது புருஷன் அனுமதியின்றியும் சேர்க்கக்கூடாது. அப்படி சேர்த்தால் தண்டத்தகு உள்படுத்திக்கொள்ளுவார்.

3. ஆள் சேர்க்கும் ரொகுருட்டி டிப்போலிலிருந்து கூலியை எடுக்கக்கூடாது.

4. உனக்கேதாவது இடையூறுகள் தெரிமொனால் விபரம் தெரிலாவது, போஸ்டு அல்லது தந்தி மூலியமாவது திருச்சிஷ் பள்ளியிலுள்ள கமிஷனர் துரையிடம் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டால் அவர் உடனே விசாரணை செய்து பரிகாரம் செய்வார்.

5. சட்டத்திற்கு விரோதமாக ஆள்களை சேர்க்கக்கூடாது. அப்படி சேர்த்தால் அந்த குற்றத்திற்கு நீ தான் ஜவாப்பதாரியாவாய்.

எச். ஸ்கோபிள் நிக்ஸன்,
சுலோன் லேபர் கமிஷனர்

NOT TRANSFERABLE. பிரத்தியாருக்கு செல்லுக்கச்சுக்கல்ல.

Ceylon Labour Commission,

Trichinopoly,

SOUTH INDIA

Recruiting for _____ Estate,

P. O. CEYLON.

Ceylon Labour Commission Agency at _____

Particulars of the Kangany.

_____ Kangany, son of _____ age _____

caste _____ village _____

Taluq _____ P. O. _____

District _____

EXHIBIT (F.)

Ceylon Labour Commissioner's Office,
Trichinopoly.

1002

ROOBLE NICHOLSON,

Ceylon Labour Commissioner,

Trichinopoly.

12.

As it has come to my notice on more than one occasion that Government officials in this Presidency are not always fully aware as to the real nature of the work of my Commission, I am venturing to bring the matter to your notice through the medium of this letter, trusting that you will find time to give it your kind attention and to appreciate the points enumerated which are as follows:—

1. As the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, I am the direct representative in India of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, which has its Head Quarters at Kandy.

2. The Ceylon Labour Commission does no direct recruiting, being merely a Forwarding and Financial Agency, besides exercising control, as far as possible, over recruiting operations. In addition, every assistance is given to Kanganies recruiting for Ceylon, and extensive advertising work is undertaken in the villages. The advertisements in question bear my signature in support of contents.

3. The Ceylon Labour Commission does not employ or recognise in any way Professional recruiters, and Kanganies who bring in coolies known to have been obtained from them are unable to get them registered or passed through my Agencies or Depôts.

4. The Ceylon Labour Commission does not permit Professional Recruiters to frequent the Agencies of the Commission or Cooly Depôts.

5. The Ceylon Labour Commission exercises every care of the Emigrant cooly from the time he is registered until the time of embarkation, and he is protected, as far as possible, from all extortion and maltreatment.

6. Should any coolies refuse to proceed to Ceylon states subsequent to registration, or express in any way their unwillingness to do so at any of the halting places on this side, prior to embarkation, they are sent back to their villages under the escort of a peon of this Commission at the cost of the recruiters.

7. The Ceylon Labour Commission refuses at all times to register minors, who are promptly rejected should they be brought into the Depôts, and the same rule applies

to solitary women. Minors and solitary women can only be passed through my Agencies, provided the Recruiter brings with the written authority of the Parents, Guardians or Husbands attested by the Village Munsiff, or the verbal authority of the accompanying guardian to the Agency supported by a written statement of consent. Any Agent disregarding these instructions is severely dealt with. In cases where minors inadvertently elude the inspection of the Commission and reach Ceylon, the matter on being brought to my notice by the parents or guardians (giving full details) is promptly attended to, as I am in a position to secure their return with as little delay as possible.

I submit for your consideration the advisability of instructing your officers to make use of the machinery at my disposal, on the occasions when they have reason to believe that minors have been taken to Ceylon as in this way they can obtain useful information and assistance which I shall be glad to render them.

I would also point out that, in cases where relatives wish the return of adult emigrants, their applications will always receive prompt attention on the deposit of a suitable sum to cover expenditure incurred in their recruitment and return, provided the emigrant is not opposed to repatriation and expresses a similar desire.

Where the authorities have reason to suppose that any recruiter utilising this Commission has undertaken illegally the recruitment of minors, and that any of my Agents or subordinates have aided and abetted the offence in any way, every assistance will be given by me to further the administration of justice, with the object of maintaining my staff at as high a standard of integrity as possible.

8. The books of the Ceylon Labour Commission are at all times open to the inspection of Government to facilitate tracing any criminal who may have emigrated to Ceylon, and to afford such other information as may be required.

9. Conditions of recruiting for Ceylon Estates can at all times be provided by this Commission if required, and vouched for. My Agents are instructed to explain to all the coolies brought in for registration the conditions of service, wages, &c., available on Ceylon Estates, and they are only authorised to register them when they have expressed their willingness to emigrate, having thoroughly comprehended the aforesaid conditions.

10. *bona fide* Kanganies from Ceylon Estates are provided with Recruiting Certificates on arrival in South India signed either by me or one of my European Assistant Commissioners. They are also provided with a signed certificate enumerating the conditions of service, pay, &c. from the Superintendent of the Estate for which the kangany is recruiting, I enclose specimens of these two forms marked A and B respectively.

11. The elaborate form of our Registration of coolies has already been of value on various occasions to Government Officials to whom I am always ready to render every

assistance with reference to coolies that have been passed through this Commission and despatched to Ceylon.

12. The Ceylon Labour Commission now passes through about 80 per cent. annually of the total number of labourers that leave South India to work on Estates in Ceylon. I am therefore able to exercise effective control over the actions of recruiters, and any irregularities brought to my notice will receive prompt attention.

13. The popularity of the methods of Ceylon recruiting in South India, generally speaking, is amply illustrated by the numbers of labourers who annually pass to and from India and Ceylon, and the large amount of money remitted to the villages throughout the recruiting Districts.

14. The methods of recruiting for Ceylon which have obtained from time immemorial are through the Kanganies and their village connections, and the connections of coolies already recruited. Where direct recruiting is undertaken, it is generally through the medium of Estate Superintendents themselves—a method which has my unqualified approval.

15. The interest of the emigrant cooly is watched carefully by the Ceylon Labour Commission.

16. The health of the labourer, when in Ceylon, is amply protected by Medical Ordinances which entail strict attention on the part of employers.

17. Recent combination in Ceylon ensures protection to the cooly from the extortionate Kangany, and also secures to him over an acreage of 76 per cent. of the Planting Area, the concession of a free passage from his village to the estate for which he was recruited.

In conclusion, I would point out that I shall be glad to give you any further information as to the conditions of Ceylon Recruiting, or the methods adopted by his Commission to encourage emigration. I am of opinion that the existence of his Commission is a guarantee of good faith and efficient control provided by no other country now undertaking recruiting operations in South India, and I trust that you will appreciate my reasons for bringing the scope of the Ceylon Labour Commission before you, in order that you should be fully acquainted with the real facts.

The benefits accruing to Labour emigrating to Ceylon are many and varied, and there are few Colonies which hold out such straightforward inducements to the poorer class or surplus population in congested Districts to emigrate and temporarily settle down with advantage to themselves and their relations whom they have left behind.

I would point out that the Indo-Ceylon Railway connection having now been opened, will further facilitate communication, practically making Ceylon, for all purposes of employment, a portion of South India, and enable the labourer to return to his country with no difficulty whenever he elects to do so.

I trust that through the medium of this communication, I shall have satisfied you as to the quality of the arrangements made, not only for recruiting, but for the protection of the interests of the recruited.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON.

Ceylon Labour Commissioner

<p>No. "A"</p> <p>The Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly.</p> <p>Date</p> <p>Head Kangany</p> <p>Sub-Kangany</p> <p>Cooly</p> <p>Preliminary Advance Rupees</p> <p>Rate per head on adults</p> <p>Do do Minors</p> <p>Agency</p>	<p>No. "A"</p> <p>The Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly.</p> <p>Superintendent</p> <p>Estate</p> <p>Tin Ticket No.</p> <p>Date</p> <p>Post Office</p> <p>Head Kangany</p> <p>Sub-Kangany</p> <p>Pay bearer</p> <p>Son of</p> <p>Daughter</p> <p>Caste</p> <p>Village</p> <p>P.O.</p> <p>Preliminary advance of Rupees</p> <p>at</p> <p>and a further advance of Rupees</p> <p>for every cooly</p> <p>brings, exclusive of rail fare and batia, to the</p> <p>Agency</p>	<p>No. "A"</p> <p>The Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly.</p> <p>Superintendent</p> <p>Estate</p> <p>Tin Ticket No.</p> <p>Date</p> <p>Post Office</p> <p>Head Kangany</p> <p>Sub-Kangany</p> <p>Pay bearer</p> <p>Son of</p> <p>Daughter</p> <p>Caste</p> <p>Village</p> <p>P.O.</p> <p>Preliminary advance of Rupees</p> <p>at</p> <p>and a further advance of Rupees</p> <p>for every cooly</p> <p>brings, exclusive of rail fare and batia, to the</p> <p>Agency</p>
<p>• DUPLICATE. EXHIBIT • TRIPPLICATE.</p> <p>Not Negotiable. Not Negotiable. Not Negotiable.</p>		
<p>• This should be sent to Head Office, Trichinopoly.</p> <p>Superintendent.</p>		
<p>MEMORANDUM.</p> <p>(a) Rate per head to be paid for coolies under full working age Rs.</p> <p>(b) Identification marks of payee.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>(c) Special conditions governing payment.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>(d) Thumb mark of payee.</p> <p>1 At Estate. 2 At Coast.</p>		
<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>(c) Specimen signature of payee.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Superintendent.</p>		

EXHIBIT H.

DUPLICATE.

ORIGINAL.

B. FORM.

B. FORM.

Per Kangany or Cooly.

No. _____
 Estate _____
 Tin Ticket No. _____
 Date _____

Post Office _____
 Head Kangany _____
 Sub-Kangany _____

DEFAULTER'S ADDRESS.

Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Caste _____
 பெயர் _____ வயது _____ இனம் _____ ஜாதி _____
 Father's name _____ Mother's name _____ Village _____
 தகப்பன் பெயர் _____ தாயர் பெயர் _____ கிராமம் _____
 Taluk _____ District _____
 தாலுகா _____ ஜில்லா _____

Unliquidated liability to the Estate _____ Height _____
 குறாட்டத்துக்குச் சேர வேண்டிய கடன் _____ உயரம் _____
 Colour _____
 நிறம் _____

Distinguishing marks _____
 (if any) General remarks. _____
 அடையாளக் குறிகள் _____
 குறிகள் பொது விப: _____

Superintendent.

கட்டுரைகளைக் கட்டு.

TRIPLICATE. B FORM.

No. _____ Per Post _____
 Estate _____ Post Office _____
 Tin Ticket No. _____ Head Kangany _____
 Date _____ Sub-Kangany _____

DEFAULTER'S ADDRESS.

Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Caste _____
 பெயர் _____ வயது _____ இனம் _____ ஜாதி _____
 Father's name _____ Mother's name _____ Village _____
 தகப்பன் பெயர் _____ தாயர் பெயர் _____ கிராமம் _____
 Taluk _____ District _____
 தாலுகா _____ ஜில்லா _____

Unliquidated liability to the Estate _____ Height _____
 குறாட்டத்துக்குச் சேர வேண்டிய கடன் _____ உயரம் _____
 Colour _____
 நிறம் _____

Distinguishing marks _____
 (if any) General remarks. _____

விசேஷக் குறிகள் _____
 குறிகள் பொது விபரம் _____

N.B.—The Duplicate will be presented by _____ At _____ Agency. _____
 Superintendent.

1. This form should be used when a request is made to trace out a defaulter and despatch him to the Estate or recover his debt.
2. An initial fee of Rs. 2 will be charged on each defaulting case and a further sum of Rs. 5 on each successful case.
3. Pronotes evidencing the defaulter's liability should be pinned on with this form.
4. The duplicate and triplicate forms should be duly filled in, the former handed to the Kangany and the latter posted to this office at least three days before he starts to the Coast. In the case when a direct requisition is made, the duplicate and triplicate forms should be filled in and posted to this office.
5. Owing to the difficulty experienced in recognising names of villages, Taluqs, Post Offices and Districts when transliterated into English Superintendents are requested to have this information entered on "B" Forms in Tamil as well as English characters.
6. It is to be noted that the success in defaulting cases entirely depends on the influence this Commission has in the villages; it has no legal powers to arrest a defaulter, nor has it any power to force a defaulter to return to the Estate or repay his debts against his or her will.
7. Particulars of enclosure should be given in full hereunder.

1. This form should be used when a request is made to trace out a defaulter and despatch him to the Estate or recover his debt.
 2. An initial fee of Rs. 2 will be charged on each defaulting case and a further sum of Rs. 5 on each successful case.
 3. Pronotes evidencing the defaulter's liability should be pinned on with this form.
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-
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 5. Owing to the difficulty experienced in recognising names of villages, Taluqs, Post Offices and Districts when transliterated into English Superintendents are requested to have this information entered on "B" Forms in Tamil as well as English characters.
 6. Particulars of enclosure should be given in full hereunder.

EXHIBIT I.**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNMENTS
OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS AND F. M. S.****LICENSE FOR RECRUITERS FOR UNINDENTURED LABOUR.**

This is to authorise.....described hereunder to recruit labourers in the District of..... and.....for agricultural work on estates and road making in the Malay Peninsula from

2. None but strong and healthy labourers fit for hard field work are required.
3. Coolies from Plague-infected areas will not be accepted.
4. Coolies recruited under this license are not to be passed to any other Agent or Agency and must be brought to the Straits Depot at Avadi.
5. This license will be in force up to 15th February, 1914.

Terms of Wages.

Males—at the rate of not less than 7 annas per diem.
Females and boys and 18 years of age, not less than 5 annas per diem.

The labourers will start work absolutely free of debt.
No deductions whatever to be made from their wages on account of expenses incurred on their behalf previous to their arrival at the place of employment.

Descriptive Roll.

Name.
Father's Name.
Caste.
Age.
Descriptive Marks.
Permanent Address.

(Signed) J. C. FORD,
Emigration Agent, S. S. and
F. M. S.

Emigration Agents Office,
16th January, 1914.

EXHIBIT J.**CERTIFICATE.**

T. T. No. Ref. No.

தகர நெ. திச்சய பத்திரம்.
Ceylon Labour Commission, Trichinopoly.

..... Agency.....191

இலங்கை வேலையாட்கள் கமிஷன், திருச்சிநுப்பள்ளி.

.....son of.....

.....Caste.....Town or Village.....

.....District, is recruiting coolies for Ceylon.....

.....இல்லா.....தாலுக்கா.....டவுன் அல்லது கிராம

.....ஜாதி.....மகன்

இலங்கைக்கு கூலி ஆட்கள் புதிதாகச் சேர்த்து

கொண்டிருக்கிறார்.

Thumb mark of right hand.

இந்தப் பத்திரத்தை உடையவர் கூலியாட்களை சேர்ப்பது

ஏதாவது சட்டத்துக்கு விடாதமான துராக்ருக நடவடி

களைச் செய்வாராகில், அப்படிப்பட்ட நடவடிக்கைகளுக்கு

கானே பாத்தியப்படவேண்டி யவரே கவிர சிலைன்

கமிஷன் உத்தியாகஸ்தர்கள் உத்தரவா தியாயிருக்கமா

ரெண்டைக் இக்குல் விபறமாக தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்ட

When making subsequent payments, thumb impressions should be

and compared.

(REVERSE OF CARD.)

The Ceylon Labour Commissioner does not hold him responsible for the objectionable methods, if any, which may be resorted to by the bearer in recruiting for coolies. He him and not the Ceylon Labour Commission, will be accountable in law for his acts.

இந்தப் பத்திரத்தை உடையவர் கூலியாட்களை சேர்ப்பது ஏதாவது சட்டத்துக்கு விடாதமான துராக்ருக நடவடிக்கைகளைச் செய்வாராகில், அப்படிப்பட்ட நடவடிக்கைகளுக்கு கானே பாத்தியப்படவேண்டி யவரே கவிர சிலைன் கமிஷன் உத்தியாகஸ்தர்கள் உத்தரவா தியாயிருக்கமா ரெண்டைக் இக்குல் விபறமாக தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்ட

EXHIBIT K.**SCHEDULE OF VILLAGES VISITED BY ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER,
MR. J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE, CHITTOOR CIRCLE.**

	Occupied houses.	Population.
Chingleput :— (Saidapet Taluk.)		
Saidapet ...	833	7014
(Chingleput Taluk.)		
Chingleput ...	1539	11626
Achcharapakam ...	75	403
Salur ...	106	694
Tirukalikundram ...	751	5158
Appur ...	94	559
Villiyambakkam ...	100	830
Palur ...	587	3513

Chingleput :—

(Conjeevaram Taluk.)		
Little Conjeevaram ...	38	244
Damal ...	430	2901
Tiruppakuli ...	291	1816
Conjeevaram ...	7878	53864
Walajabad ...	767	4789
(Ponneri Taluk.)		
Perambur ...	43	326

Guntur District :—

(Guntur Taluk.)		
Guntur ...	6630	40529
(Narasarapet Taluk.)		
Narasarawpet ...	1650	8743
Ravipadu ...	325	1886
Nekarikallu ...	474	2462

	Occupied houses.	Population.		Occupied houses.	Population.
Guntur District :— (Palnad Taluk.)			North Arcot District :—		
Pidugurala ...	408	2005	Pallikonda ...	420	2830
Dachapalle ...	674	3325	Konavattam ...	193	1429
Pondugalla ...	204	930	Tuttipattu ...	60	420
(Sattenapalle Taluk.)			(Gudiyatham Taluk.)		
Sattenapalle ...	732	3966	Katpadi ...	380	2756
Medikonduru ...	476	2724	Gudiyatham ...	3728	23390
Kurnool District :— (Kurnool Taluk.)			Peranampattu ...	1026	5685
Kurnool ...	5028	25827	Kailasagiri ...	272	1553
(Cumbum Taluk.)			Mailpatti ...	263	1656
Giddalur ...	720	3737	Ramalai ...	388	2473
Daddavada ...	498	2428	Yeratangal ...	256	1670
Cumbum ...	1562	6344	(Arni Taluk.)		
Krishnamasettipalle ...	530	2377	Arni ...	241	1511
Mundlapadu ...	716	3331	Saidapet ...	80	526
Cuddapah District :— (Cuddapah Taluk.)			Kannamangalam ...	379	3278
Cuddapah ...	3746	17807	Devikpuram ...	367	2792
(Badvel Taluk.)			(Wandiwash Taluk.)		
Diguvatabalapalle ...	39	263	Wandiwash ...	1090	6973
Nellore District :— (Nellore Taluk.)			Salavedu ...	179	1631
Nellore ...	6867	33246	Maratadu ...	443	3529
Narukuri ...	205	960	Peranamallur ...	349	2342
(Kovuru Taluk.)			Nedungunam ...	182	1542
Kovuru ...	1501	6862	(Cheyar Taluk.)		
South Arcot District :— (Ginji Taluk.)			Nemmili ...	37	237
Gingi ...	105	690	(Polur Taluk.)		
Vallati ...	220	1468	Polur ...	1216	8799
Modaiyur ...	245	1791	Modaiyur ...	131	915
Kannalam ...	148	1110	Kadaladi ...	529	3958
Uranitangal ...	29	203	Settupattu ...	397	2517
Nangilikondan ...	39	336	(Tiruvanamalai Taluk.)		
Oddampattu ...	138	781	Tiruvanamalai ...	3079	21244
Alampundi ...	322	2718	Alathur ...	131	1002
Nemalai ...	85	592	Kaniambadi ...	391	2845
(Villupuram Taluk.)			Pennathur ...	664	4510
Villupuram ...	1909	12372	(Tirupathur Taluk.)		
Muttattur ...	311	1740	Tirupathur ...	2039	10470
Valavanur ...	713	4396			
Nemur ...	130	1062			
Tumbur ...	170	1105			
Panankuppam ...	238	1378			
(Tindivanam Taluk.)					
Tindivanam ...	972	6386			
(Virdachalam Taluk.)					
Koyilanur ...	113	762			
North Arcot District :— (Arkonam Taluk.)					
Arkonam ...	987	6896			
Kaveripakkam ...	984	5897			
Munnal ...	491	3226			
Ochcheri ...	40	257			
(Walajapet Taluk.)					
Ranipet ...	1208	7807			
Arcot ...	1920	11475			
Walajapet ...	1946	9962			
(Vellore Taluk.)					
Alumelmangapuram ...	156	1058			
Velloré ...	6983	49746			
Ambur ...	2570	16465			

THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES WERE ALSO VISITED BY THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, BUT THEY ARE ONLY HAMLETS AND SMALL VILLAGES WHERE POPULATION WILL MOST PROBABLY BE FEW AND SO ARE NOT MENTIONED IN THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT VILLAGE STATISTICS.

Chittoor District :—	Pappampatti
Thandapalle	Sirukkadu
Chittoor	South Arcot District :—
Paradharami	Vanakambadi
Yadamari	Shanikulam
Naraharipeta	Chingleput District :—
Mudduramapuram	Uyalur
North Arcot District :—	Melacheri
Tambali	Balachettichattram
Uppumodu	Melvettinagaram
Simantangi	Uppukulam
Melvisaram	Mawandur
Pudhutakku	Guntur District :—
Perumi	Radhakrishna
Cheyar Anicut	Kurnool District :—
Satgur	Dantelapalle
Manavur	Nellore District :—
	Vulavapalle

SCHEDULE OF VILLAGES VISITED BY ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER,
MR. E. V. B. LEVINGE, IN THE SALEM CIRCLE FROM
THE 1st SEPTEMBER TO 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

Villages.	Occupied houses.	Population.
Salem District:—		
SALEM TALUK.		
Veeravandi ..	350	1709
Attayampatti ...	568	2654
TRICHENGODE TALUK.		
Trichengode ...	999	4645
Pallipalayam ...	920	4483
Sanniasipatty ...	134	551
Sittarampalayam ...	661	3032
Kumaramangalam ...	896	3645
Moramam ...	289	995
Mallasamudram ...	789	3807
Rajapalayam ...	689	2856
Kumaramangalam ...	896	3645
Konkanapuram ...	486	2282
Karantharai ...	424	2129
Kumarapalayam ...	533	2122
Eddapady ...	1107	6001
Reddipatty ...	54	269
UTANGARAI TALUK:—		
Pallipatty ...	206	977
Rasalampatty ...	65	353
Soorapatty ...	50	214
Mallipatty ...	27	141
Thonganur ...	53	310
Manayambadi ...	121	581
Kadathur ...	278	1636
Buddireddipatti ...	204	1135
Mallapuram ...	55	290
Thenkarikottai ...	165	954
Jammanahalli ...	147	805
Pudur ...	77	409
Chintalbadi ...	178	908
Irulapatty ...	139	695
Thithamalai ...	73	434
Harur ...	506	3236
OMALUR TALUK:—		
Puliampatty ...	116	562
Taramangalam ...	548	3609
Pappambadi ...	419	2257
Mecheri ...	809	4062
Vangavalli ...	831	4602
Omalur ...	293	1487
Poogaripatty ...	125	642
DHARMAPURI TALUK:—		
Dharnapuri ...	886	4367
Paparapatty ...	176	917
Pennagaram ...	497	2628
Semanahalli ...	43	198
Hanumanthapuram ...	195	10
ATUR TALUK:—		
Thambampatty ...	858	4041
Atur ...	1114	4971
HOSUR TALUK:—		
Hosur ...	931	5383
North Arcot District:—		
TIRUPATHUR TALUK.		
Tirupathur ...	2039	10470
Jolarpet ...	180	1992

Trichy District:—
NAMAKAL TALUK.

	Occupied houses.	Population.
Namakal ...	569	2988
Pudupatty ...	502	2272
Kandampalayam ...	129	513
Sannaripalayam ...	107	431

MUSIRI TALUK:—

	Occupied houses.	Population.
Valavandy ...	385	1740
Ponnusangampatty ...	361	1311
Turiayur ...	1634	8606
Venkatachellaouram ...	552	2140
Musiri ...	1060	4969

Mysore State:—

BANGALORE.
NANJANGUD.

THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES WERE ALSO VISITED BY THE ASSISTANT
COMMISSIONER, BUT THEY ARE ONLY HAMLETS AND SMALL
VILLAGES WHERE POPULATION WILL MOST PROBABLY
BE FEW AND SO ARE NOT MENTIONED IN THE
CURRENT GOVERNMENT VILLAGE STATISTICS.

Salem District.

Kakapalayam	Desiyankuttai	Lakkimpatty
Kalipatty	Vellandivellatchai	Nallapurampatty
Sooriagoundampalayam	Sankaridrug	Valingipatty
Kalisampalayam	Gobanathampatty	Adagapady
Goundampalayam	Odasalpatti	Narthapatty
Nattuvampalayam	Passarapatty	Indue Agraharam
Narayanapalayam	Thindalanoor	Indur
Sittarampalayam	Sillarapatty	Belianur Agraharam
Collapatti	Singarapatty	Sogathur
Andipatty	Nadoor	Errapatty
Chikankathur	Buthanam	Oddapatty
Ellichipalayam	Novalingam	Ilayadampuri
Yangappa Malai	Kamayanallor	Karamangalam
Palamiduputhur	Ammapatty	Mothur
Kalapampalayam	Kannathithampatty	Tellanahalli
Kandampalayam	Payampatty	Tippampatty
Govindipalayam	Hannumanthitham	Muthupatti
Marruckupalayam	Madiampatty	Seerampatti
Sinnampatty	Keelapuram	Rajapatty
Kuppandapalayam	Palanigoundanur	Sholakottai
Thallur	Muniampatty	Odasahalli
Chinnapanaickenpalayam	Mallayampalayam	Oddapatty
Kaddamadda	Toppur	Timmampatty
		Todathamahalli

Trichinopoly District.

Sreeniyasancellore	Navuretti	Vellacovindampatty
Athanripalayam	Paramatti	Chickathamboo

Schedule of Villages visited by Assistant Commis-
sioner Mr. G. S. Dupen Palghat Circle in the
Coimbatore District in the Year 1913.

Villages.	Occupied houses.	Population.
Erode Taluk:—		
Erode ...	2,475	16,701
Perundurai ...	1,728	7,795
Nasianoor ...	381	1,580

Villages.	Occupied Houses.	Population.	EXHIBIT L.	Estate.
Perode Taluk:—				
Peria Agharam ...	405	296		
Chenamalai ...	679	3,308		
Chengapalli ...	542	2,279		
Yaliapalayam ...	57	246		
Ingur ...	811	3,579		
Sitthoda ...	322	1,899		
Avanashi Taluk:—				
Suriyapalayam ...	70	348		
Totipalayam ...	37	178		
Avanashi ...	418	2,082		
Amanapalayam ...	210	1,076		
Palladam Taluk:—				
Karrumuthampatti...	931	4,818		
Kanninur ...	511	2,711		
Nilamboor ...	1,133	5,817		
Palladam ...	250	1,488		
Avanashipalayam ...	629	3,109		
Pungaloor ...	538	2,637		
Matapur ...	715	3,449		
Vadakupalayam ...	302	1,416		
Suloor ...	1,098	6,091		
Nasampalayam ...	199	1,034		
Bhavani Taluk:—				
Bhavani ...	1,802	8,716		
Tiruppur ...	961	4,659		
Coimbatore Taluk:—				
Coimbatore ...	6,937	47,007		
Madukarai ...	381	1,791		
Ettimadu ...	260	1,297		
Pollachi Taluk:—				
Pollachi ...	1,293	7,339		
Rajakkapalayam ...	169	804		
Gomangalam ...	254	1,261		
Kolarpatti ...	188	913		
Udamalpet ...	—	—		
Udamalpet Taluk:—				
Udamalpet ...	999	5,377		
Palankinare ...	152	664		
Karrattoluva ...	447	2,190		
Tungavi ...	551	3,031		
Periapatti ...	421	2,360		
Kotamangalam ...	467	2,419		
Gudimangalam ...	549	2,887		
Ponneri ...	293	1,563		
Sinna Virampatti ...	465	2,436		

THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES IN COIMBATORE DISTRICT WERE ALSO VISITED BY THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, BUT THEY ARE ONLY HAMLETS AND SMALL VILLAGES WHERE POPULATION WILL MOST PROBABLY BE FEW ARE NOT MENTIONED IN THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT VILLAGE STATISTICS.

Paravachi	Walliar	Kollampatti
Ingigrahram	Chatram	Madathakolam
Kollattapalayalam	Nachoor	Palapumpatti
Viziamangalam	Kuttiamangalam	Krishnapuram
Perumanelleur	Kozhimjampara	Poyadi
Cheyur	Para	Salaputhur
Periamalur	Narasingapuram	Venketapuram
Nartakampara	Perumalaiyur	Kelannur
Tenampalayalam	Ramanadapuram	Kanjikod
		Kantbekavundunsalai
		Chulimuday

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

FARE & MEAL ORDERS.

1. COLOMBO

(a) Meals.
(b) Steamer fare to...

2. TUTICORIN

(a) Meals.
(b) Rail fare to...

ISSUED TO

Date

A. Form No. Estate.

Tin Ticket No.

THE AGENT,

Ceylon Labour Commission,

COLOMBO.

DEAR SIR,

Please give the following kangaries and coolies necessary meals and purchase combined steamer and rail tickets for them to their destination, charging the cost of same to Estate Account.

Estate.

THE AGENT,

Ceylon Labour Commission,

TUTICORIN.

DEAR SIR,

Please give the following kangaries and coolies one meal each, charging the cost of same to Estate Account, and put them on the train for their destination.

EXHIBIT L.

To

THE MADURA Co., Ltd.,

TUTICORIN.

DEAR SIRS,
Kindly assist the following kangaries and coolies in rapid disembarkation and passing through the Customs Department at Tuticorin.

Yours faithfully,

Superintendent.

Yours faithfully,

Superintendent

Date

Date

Yours faithfully,

Superintendent.

Date

Date

COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.

APRIL 1st, 1914.

As it will be seen by the appended schedule, the Circles of this Commission have been re-arranged and are in accordance with the C. L. C. map which will shortly be brought out for the use of Ceylon estates subscribing to this Commission. The re-arrangement has been made for the sake of convenience and in order to effect more economy in working and preparatory to any increase that may in the future be made to the controlling staff. Fuller details of this re-arrangement will be given next month but owing to the inclusion of my annual report in the present issue of the "Planting Gazette" I do not feel myself entitled to encroach further upon the good nature of the Editor.

The total number of coolies that have passed through this Commission during the first quarter of the year amount to 9,372 as against 12,239 for the same period last year. This shows a decrease of no less than 2,867 which I regret to have to record. In many of the districts crops which have been harvested have been exceptionally good. This is especially exemplified by the falling off in Trichinopoly District. In Tinnevely the effect of plague in Colombo has not yet apparently had time to appreciably affect recruiting figures, but judging from reports received from my Agent intending emigrants have been scared by returning coolies from Colombo with exaggerated tales of compulsory inoculation and destruction of their property. I have had leaflets printed to broadcast in the district with the object of reassuring the people. Tataparai shows a big falling off which in some measure may be accounted for by the opening of the new route, but many coolies from Tinnevely District go direct to that Agency. In this circle, Madura Agency continues to show improvement. In the **Head Quarter Circle** the decrease from Manapparai is owing to the closing of that agency for registration and is not altogether indicative of the real state of affairs. Tanjore and Pudukottah both show an increase which it is satisfactory to note. In the **Aroot Circle**, climatic conditions undoubtedly account for decrease, but Villupuram still continues to go ahead. **Salem Circle**. Returns from Namakal and Thuraiyur show a slight increase, but results from Salem itself are most disappointing. **Telugu Circle**. Recruiters from Ceylon appear to be altogether neglecting the recruiting of Telugus so far this year. It seems a pity seeing that conditions are so favourable at the present moment.

CEYLON NOTES.—A large number of A. Form holders are now arriving at Trichinopoly, and many of them hold Ceylon notes, in some cases to a considerable value and ask that they be cashed by the Commission. As I have no opportunity of disposing of these notes, their negotiation causes inconvenience that would be avoided if Superintendents would make all pre-advances payable here and also if they would inform the kangany that they should not take any sum in notes with them. If they are desirous of trans-

mitting their savings or pre-advances to India, the most convenient way to do is to give the cash to the Superintendent who can then issue an A. Form on this office.

TIN TICKETS.—Attention has presently been drawn to the fact that some kanganies make a practice of pledging their tin tickets with hotel-keepers or others against advances in cash or meals, the advance to be repaid when the kangany registers coolies; in many cases the tickets are not redeemed, they are lost to the estate and there is the possibility that they will be fraudulently used.

I have taken legal advice on the question and am informed that the pledging of tickets is a criminal offence, and Superintendents should warn their kanganies against the practice.

In all cases when A. Forms are issued, I shall be glad if the tin tickets are sent to me, and I shall hold them for the use of the kanganies or other A. Form holders.

CUMBLIES.—Owing to an advance in the cost of raw material, the price of the cumblies made in the local gaul has been increased to Rs. 2-3-0 each for large lots and Rs. 2-5-0 for single cumblies and small orders.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Namakal Agency.

There is an increase in registration this year as against last which is attributed to the absence of rain last year. It is expected that there will be a further increase on this account in the course of the coming recruiting season.

Everything is dried up and the hot weather has started in earnest. Crops appear to me to be generally in a rather poor state and the villagers everywhere complain of the scarcity of rain and the poorness of the harvests. Kumbu and Cholam are the only crops standing at present and will be harvested in about 2 months. It does not look as though they will give a very good return. A little cotton is cultivated near Sendamangalam in this Taluq but requires rain very badly and the returns will not therefore be very profitable unless this arrives in time. The ground-nut harvest which provides most of the labourers with employment about this time, is practically over but continues in some parts of the Taluq. This Taluq consists of 371 villages and hamlets with a population of 151,272 males and 160,000 females. Of the 371 villages mentioned above, no less than 276 are Mittas or Zemindaries that is, not Government Villages, which shows that there are a great many rich landowners who might, if they choose to do so hamper recruiting to a very great extent.

Musiri Agency.

The slight decrease in registration is likely to be only temporary as the recruiting prospects for this Taluq promise to be good this year.

Turalyur Agency.

Kanganies have not yet started coming in very large numbers. This Agency is particularly free from bolting after registration.

Cuddapah.

The groundnut industry is increasing and has oustedaddy, ragi and Cholum, the consequence being that ryots have to obtain their food supplies at increased cost. At present the ryots are busy with the groundnut cultivation. In another month a plentiful supply of labour should be available and European Agents should either recruit themselves or appoint suitable agents. Tamil Kanganies should be kept away.

Through the medium of missionaries coolies are from time to time being recruited. If Superintendents intend going over, they should do almost at once to make arrangements for coolies to emigrate at the proper recruiting season. Famine conditions might probably prevail in Badvel where rain has been insufficient. In Badvel the tanks are all empty even now. In the taluk of Udayagiri in Nellore similar conditions prevail, also Giddalur and Cumbam in the Kurnool District. The Agent at Cuddapah who knows these districts is available to escort Superintendents to centres where labour can be procured. He has already done good work in this respect. He says labour is available in Gooty and the missionaries in that place are being requested to assist.

Katpadi.

RECRUITING PROSPECTS.—The harvest now being on and the ground-nut season, recruiting prospects are not bright for the moment, but should improve later. This agency shows a decrease to date of 167 coolies which is very heavy. The agent accounts for this falling off in some measure to the plague which is very bad just now at Vellore which induces kanganies to take coolies to other agencies to avoid detention at Trichinopoly. I consider that some of the decrease can also be attributed to the fact that more strict examination is being made of the coolies with the object of preventing bolting after registration by bogus gangs and I trust that the stamp of coolies recruited at Katpadi will therefore show a great improvement and the bolting after registration figures be similarly reduced.

Villupuram.

Villupuram is the centre of groundnut cultivation which is very much better than last year and accounts in some measure for the decrease in the recruiting figures of this agency. The cultivation should be completed by the end of March when figures will probably improve.

Tanjore.

The prospects for the recruiting season are fair and except on the Coleroon side the harvest has been good enough throughout the district. There has been a considerable increase in the number of coolies who have gone to Ceylon up to date as compared with the same period last year.

Arkonam.

Rice is still being reaped in some parts and is a good crop. The full acreage of ragi has been planted and it is now being transplanted to be reaped at the end of April. The rains in this part of North Arcot were good as far as Sholinghur and most of the tanks and wells have enough water to last until April. Recruiting will probably be not very good for the time. Coolies registered at this agency come principally from Arkonam and Walajapet taluks in North Arcot District, Tihuvallur Taluk in Chingleput District and Puthur Taluk in Chittoor District.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.
April 9th, 1914.

No. 307.

Chittoor, April 6th, 1914.

THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,

Trichinopoly.

DEAR SIR,

March Camp.

The above camp was undertaken in the neighbourhood of Arkonam during 14 days while 4 days were spent in connection with the Katpadi Agency. During the 18 days I covered:—

By rail	...	...	135
By road	...	...	119

254

On the 4th March I went to Katpadi by train to inspect that Agency and to enquire into several other matters in connection with it. On the 5th and 6th March I remained in Katpadi and returned to Chittoor in the morning of the 7th.

On the 11th I received instructions to proceed on Camp in the vicinity of Arkonam and went by train to that place the following day. On 13th, 14th and 15th I remained at Arkonam station as being convenient for visiting the agency. I inspected the agency thoroughly and examined the kanganies waiting there. I then picked out by means of agency books and my own maps all the villages on or near the roads surrounding Arkonam in which were to be found kanganies or coolies who had come from Ceylon and drew up the scheme for visiting as many of these people as possible. Having then moved over to the travellers' bungalow as being a more convenient place from which to reach the roads, I spent the rest of the Camp in carrying out as much as possible of this scheme and in advertising.

I chose first to go down the Nemali road since I had never been on that road before. On this road I visited the villages of Ammanur, Melpakkam, Paritiputtur, Nagavedu and Sirunmalli and saw or heard news of two kanganies after a good deal of waiting about in most of the villages.

In the course of conversation in these places I gathered that at one time the debts even of people who owned no land ran as high as Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 but that now it was only

possible for a man to borrow about Rs. 20, unless on the security of land. Most of the crops in the neighbourhood were ragi and rice but at that time there was no work in connection with either. There was a good deal of young stuff which would be reaped in the following month or later. Wages were generally paid in kind, about one measure of paddy or two measures of ragi per day and one meal. This would equal nearly five annas a day. One man in Melpakkam village told me that he had been to Penang and said that wages were much higher there than in Ceylon but that they had been reduced lately. He himself owned a little land and had had a debt of about Rs. 35 which he has since paid off, principally, I gathered by supplying coolies for Penang when he had come back from there. The idea of going to Ceylon was evidently quite an accepted one but immediate prospects of coolies going did not seem very bright.

The following day I went up the Putthur road as far as Pommidhi and visited the following villages: Mampakkam, Polur, Ichaputtur, Puthur, Vallimapuram, Tiruttani, Yettikuppam, Murugampet, and Pommidhi.

Amongst these villages I saw or heard news of 4 kanganies and have sent in reports concerning them. I also did a good deal of advertising. In Pommidhi I had a long talk with the villagers and some coolies who had come back from Ceylon. The people here appeared very glad to see me and from one or two kanganies I received almost an enthusiastic welcome. I was presented with two Kurumbas quite in the Ceylon style. Here also the crops appeared to be principally rice and ragi and Alupolla Parvathi said that she was busy reaping ragi. The village is not a big one but good connections appear to have been found in it and many of the villagers had gone to Ceylon. Ceylon appeared to be well liked here and I heard no grumbling against it. The presence of a head kangany's wife in the gathering possibly prevented the usual growl against the Kanganies. I should think that the recruiting in this village would be very successful. The village is in Chittoor district, but the language appears to be entirely Tamil. Along this road some villages are inhabited by Tamil-speaking people and others by Telugu. At the village of Ichaputtur where I stopped for some time the people were able to speak Tamil but any literature given out had to be in Telugu and one man handed me back a Tamil notice saying that he could not read English and asked me in Tamil for one printed in Vadugu.

My next trip was a small circulation one of about 25 miles down the Canjeevaram road as far as Palur and along a cross road to Nemali visiting the following villages:—Perumutchi, Parameswaramangalam, Arigilawadi, Sentamangalam, Paruvanmedu, Palur, Sayanavaram and Paranchi and passing through Nagavadu, Serunmalli, Paritiputtur, Melpakkam and Ammanur for the second time.

I was not greatly struck with the villages on the road to Palur. The road follows the railway line all the way and the people of these villages are evidently rather a scoundrelly lot. Most of the men who appeared were either drunk or getting on that way and were loafing about doing nothing

except a few employed by S. I. Railway on the line and bridges. Leaving this road about a mile north of Palur, I arrived shortly at the village of Saynavaram about half way along the cross road. Here the people seemed never to have heard of Ceylon or Kandy or Colombo or Illangei or any other way I could express it and I could find no one able to read. The people simply stood round and gazed at me with open mouths. In the only other village on this road, Paranchi, the effect of my appearance was much the same and I do not suppose that a motor of any sort has ever been along that road before. In Nemali the people were more intelligent and the notices that I distributed were read at once.

Along these roads there did not seem to be much work going on in the fields. Again rice and ragi were the principal crops and wages worked out at between four and five annas. One man in Palur told me that the wages were better in North Arcot than in Chingleput District. Palur is close to the boundary of Chingleput District. I should think that the village on both roads from Nemali would be good places for recruiting.

On the 20th I paid another visit to the agency and then moved camp to Sholinger. Since a good many coolies were recruited in that direction. My luggage I sent by train to Sholinger station, and thence by road to the village. I myself went by road straight to the village where the Travellers' Bungalow is a distance of 18 miles. On the first part of this road as far as the turn off to Munnal there were no villages to be seen. The road seemed to be a new one and was made straight over the country without any attempt at easing the gradients and there was no shade whatever. Near the turn off to Munnal about 3 miles from the road was the village of Sittambadi where including walk from the road it took 2½ hours to find Halwatura Murugesan and between this and Sholinger I visited the village of Perumalraipet. The country is very bare and uncultivated with low rocky hills on both sides of the road and there were a very few people about. I had some trouble with the motor cycle on this trip and arrived at Sholinger only at 2-30 in the afternoon.

Sholinger is in a corner of North Arcot district surrounded on three sides by Chittoor district and my next trip on the Chittoor road as far as Ponnai took me again through part of Chittoor district in order to get there. Ponnai itself is in North Arcot district. I visited the village of Nagapundi Molakuppam, Kanickapuram, and Puttur, two of which are in Chittoor district and where the people seemed to be a very good lot. The language spoken was mostly Telugu, but all were able to speak Tamil also. The cultivation here is fairly scattered, and besides ragi and a little rice, there were small patches of cholum. At Nagapundi and the surrounding hamlets a short distance out of Sholinger Ceylon was well-known and the rest of the road seemed to be new ground and, I think, a very good ground for recruiting. In Ponnai notices were eagerly demanded though there the people know all about Ceylon.

On the 22nd I went up to the road to Bhanavaram and visited the villages of Veeramuttur and Pulivalam and Bhanavaram. In Veeramuttur it took an hour to find 84

John Del Rey Veeraswamy. Here the people evidently knew a good deal about Ceylon, but their opinion of it was not good. The chief complaint of course was against the incapacity of the kanganyes. I was told that there was plenty of work on the roads for digging out prickly pear, &c., at 6 annas a day, therefore why go to Ceylon to be fleeced. There were one or two people in the crowd who could read and I was questioned concerning the notices. I believe I left a better impression on the more serious-minded of the people.

On the 23rd I went to Madras on private business and returned the same evening and on the 24th I took train back to Headquarters.

The general impression that I gained of the country covered during this camp was that it was fairly prosperous except perhaps west of Nagapundi where there had been less rain and two rather barren parts between Arkonam and Sholinger—the biggest part of these exceptions being in Chittoor District. All round Arkonam there has been plenty of rain and there will be no lack of water until the next rains. I do not think that recruiting prospects can be said to be exceptionally bright, but I have no doubt some where the near average recruiting will go on and I have indicated one or two good centres.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MARCH CAMP OF THE SALEM ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER.

Namakal Taluk (Salem District.)

ON THE 19TH.—In accordance with your instructions, I set out on a tour in the vicinity of the Namakal Agency, and having inspected the books and records on arrival there, ascertained the names and villages of the Kanganies working in the neighbourhood and taking the Agent's Bolt Case File, I commenced my rounds of checking, advertising and getting as much information as possible. My report on the Agency, together with detailed notes of interviews I had with Kanganies in their villages, and also separate notes of general interests have already reached you I think.

ON THE 20TH.—I visited the village of Puthur, Namakal Taluk. Here the family debts are from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300, or an average of Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 a head. The local wages for men are 2 annas and 3 annas and for women to 1½ annas per diem. No one has been to Ceylon from here and no Kanganies were working in the village. The people did not appear very keen or interested in Ceylon. I next visited Mohanur, Namakal Taluk. From this village about 50 persons have gone to Ceylon and families of from 10 to 15 souls incur debts to the extent of Rs. 200 or 300 or 400 to 25 a head. The local wages paid are extremely high, namely 6 annas to 10 annas which is, I understand on enquiry, due to the Plantain cultivation which is carried

on somewhat extensively here, and there is therefore a demand for labour. The village Munsiff whom I interviewed here, assured me that some of the people were taken on emigration, and this was certainly borne out by the way they clamoured for the notices. I checked several Defaulting Case Yadasts in consultation with the village Munsiff, and then proceeded to Vellayapatty, Namakal Taluk. From 50 to 60 people have gone to Ceylon from here and the local wages for men are from 2 to 4 annas and for women 2 to 3 annas. The debts of a family do not exceed Rs. 30 or an average of Rs. 10 a head. The people here appear to have a preference for Penang as they say the wages paid are so much better than in Ceylon.

ON THE 21ST.—I visited Thusur, Namakal Taluk, where I gather debts are incurred to the extent of Rs. 40 a head. Men get from 3 to 4 annas and women 1½ as. per diem and about 200 persons have gone to Ceylon. The people are very pleased with all they have heard of Ceylon and a lot of them are very anxious to go there. They have had very little rain for the past 4 years so their crops have naturally disappointed them. At the next village I stopped at, Alanganatham, the people seemed fairly keen but were far more eager to go to Penang as, here again, they say they get much better wages, and more go to Penang therefore, on this account. About 50 have gone to Ceylon and the average village debt is about Rs. 20 a head. Men get from 2 to 3 annas and women 1½ as. a day. I then branched off the main road along a bandy track and visited Erumai-patti, which is a large village. I saw several Kanganies here and got details from them as to what they were doing in the recruiting line. They seemed very surprised to see me as I don't think they anticipated being looked up by an European in this manner. About 100 people have emigrated to Ceylon from this village and the villagers are very keen to go. They have had practically no rain and have therefore very little work in consequence. Wages are very low and local debts up to Rs. 40 a head. The village Munsiff whom I interviewed and consulted about several Defaulting Case Yadasts he had given, was very obliging, and promises all the assistance he can give. I recommend any Superintendent who visits this village to go to him first as I feel sure he will do all he can for them. At my next stop, Panakulapatty, the people gave me the idea of being very interested as their lands are very dry on account of the scarcity of rain. Village debts are from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 a head, and local wages for men 2 annas and women 1½ as.

ON THE 23RD.—I cut across part of the Salem Taluk, visiting Rasipuram. About 10 people have gone from Pallacheri which is really a part of Rasipuram but inhabited by Pallas or Cultivators. Gangs from this place photos of which will be found in our Agencies, are fairly notorious and generally bolt, so I do not think this village any good for recruiting. I met a Kangany here who told me he had recruited about 5 coolies. From the main village of Rasipuram between 20 and 30 have emigrated to Ceylon and local debts range between 10 and 50 rupees a

head. A man gets 4 annas and a woman gets 3 as. a day wages. At the next village Kattukutty, the village debts are from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 a head and wages for men from 3 to 4 annas and for women $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas to 2 annas. The crops appear to be pretty good here, as they have plenty of well water to irrigate their lands with and therefore fully occupied and have no desire to emigrate. I next stopped at Singalanatharum. Here the local debts are from Rs. 20 to 25 a head, and wages for men 3 to 4 annas and women 3 annas. About 10 have gone to Ceylon and the crops appear to be in a fair state, and they declare they have plenty of work as the ground nut season is on at present. A little labour is however available and recruiting may be tried. At the next village, Belukuruchi which is composed of about 500 houses of Vellalas, the local wages are 4 annas for men and 2 annas for women and their debts are about Rs. 20 a head. About 10 have emigrated from here and the crops, though poor, from insufficient rain, provide a fair amount of work. At Vittakadu, where I next stopped, the debts are about Rs. 15 a head and wages for men 4 annas and women 2 annas. About 15 have gone to Ceylon. The village debts range between 20 and 30 Rupees a head. Before I go any further I must warn any one who intends visiting any of the last 4 mentioned villages, that though this road from Belukuruchi is shown on the Map as metalled, it is practically an impossible one for anything in the shape of a Motor Vehicle and can only be done in a bullock handy, and with some difficulty at that. From here I visited Kuppanayakanur, where the wages for men are 4 as. and women 3 annas and debts from Rs. 20 to 25 a head. Only 3 have been to Ceylon from here and there was not much keenness shown.

ON THE 24TH.—I visited Sendamangalam, Namakal Taluq, and interviewed several Kanganies who gave me details of the recruiting they were doing. I also saw the Village Munsiff and checked some Defaulting Case Yadasts and he was most obliging in assisting me to unearth the Kanganies I enquired about. About 20 to 30 have gone to Ceylon from this place and more are anxious to go. Men get from 3 to 4 annas and women 2 annas a day, and village debts are not more than Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 a head. I next stopped at Nellupoliam, from whence about 30 or 40 have gone to Ceylon and the local debts are from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 a head. Wages for men 4 annas and women 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas a day. The people showed very little interest here and seemed very dull headed. At the next village Vellagoundampatti there are no Kanganies working at present but 2 or 3 have returned to their Estates a short while ago. Men get 4 annas and women $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas a day. Debts are between Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 a head. Scarcity of rain, and poorness of cultivation in consequence, is complained of, and the people appear rather anxious to leave their village and better their prospects by emigration. At Unganai, from 10 to 15 people have gone to Ceylon. Men only get from 2 to 3 annas a day wages. They have had practically no rain and their crops are in a very bad state. The people showed a little interest and, I think with further in-

ducement, could be persuaded to go. At the next village, Pambagoundampaliam, the wages are only 2 annas a day, and there are no Kanganies working here. The people seem very keen as their crops are very poor. A few have gone to Ceylon from a village called Kunnamalai about one mile from here. On my way through Paramatti, which I have visited before, I distributed a great many notices. Crops are in a very fair state here though rain has been scarce. This village consists mostly of weavers.

ON THE 25TH.—I visited Vetambadi and interviewed a Kanganian named Marrappa Goundan of El Teb Estate. From 10 to 15 have been to Ceylon from here and the wages are 4 annas for men and 3 annas for women and village debts from Rs. 20 to 30 a head. There has been a very little rain here also. I then went to Muthugapatti, where there appears to be a great scarcity of water and crops are in a very poor state. Debts are from Rs. 40 to 50 a head and wages 4 annas for men and $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 annas for women. No one except a few Sakkilies or Cobblers, have gone to Ceylon from here, but a few have gone from Budiniganpatty not far away. I saw the village Munsiff here and asked him about several Defaulting Case Yadasts. The people do not seem very anxious to leave their homes in spite of the poorness of crops and want of rain.

ON THE 26TH.—I went out to Kandampalayam, where the people informed me they were pleased with what they had heard of Ceylon, as the 15 who have gone from here frequently wrote and told them about it. Wages are 4 annas for men and $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas for women and crops are in a very bad state. Debts are from Rs. 20 to 40 and I think the people are keen and anxious to emigrate, by reason of the good reports they have received. At my next stop, Pungampalayam, a village Vellalas of between 40 and 50 houses, crops are poor and men earn 4 annas, and women 2 annas a day. No one has gone to Ceylon from here and the debts are from Rs. 10 to Rs. 30 a head. This village may be tried by Superintendents themselves. I then stopped at Kavalamalai, which is mostly inhabited by Mudaliars, weavers. Local wages are 4 annas for men 2 annas for women. Water is very scarce and debts from Rs. 10 to Rs. 40 a head. A great many have emigrated to Penang and Ceylon, but they assured me that they preferred the former place. They seemed extremely keen to get the notices and nearly tore me to pieces in their attempts to do so. I next stopped at Karrutipalayam, a village almost entirely of Vellalas, all of whom have lands. Men earn 4 annas and women $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 annas a day. Crops are in a very poor state and water is scarce. About 5 have emigrated from here to both Penang and Ceylon a year ago, and since then they have not been heard of. The local debts do not exceed Rs. 5 a head.

ON THE 27TH.—I went out to Pottanur, a village consisting of Vellalas and other castes. Men earn 6 annas and women $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas to 2 annas a day. The people are not at all anxious to emigrate from here as the Plantain and betel cultivation provides them with plenty of labour and high wages, they incur no debts. A lot of people have emigrat-

from the surrounding villages. I next went to Pandamanalam, a village of Vellalas and weavers, where men earn 4 annas and women 2 annas a day. One or two have gone to Ceylon from here and I think labour is available, and a few more can be persuaded to go. Debts are from Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 a head. At the next village, a very small one called Saranapalyam, the people are all toddy extractors with no desire to emigrate. At Pichilipalayam, the next village of from 15 to 20 houses of Padayachies, the local wages are 4 annas for men and $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas for women and the local debts do not exceed Rs. 10 a head. No one has been to Ceylon from here but a great many have been to Penang, and say that they prefer to go there as they get much higher wages. The next village I stopped at was as curiously enough the same as the last but one, namely Saranapalyam. This is also populated by toddy extractors, 2 or 3 of whom, have gone to Penang. Their debts are from Rs. 10 to 30. The next village, Ananganur, the debts are only a few rupees a head and a few Padayachies have emigrated to Penang but not to Ceylon. At Vadagariathur, a village of mostly Vellalas, the wages are 4 annas and 2 annas respectively and no one has been to Ceylon. Some of the people go from here to the Travancore Hills, but are not keen on emigrating from the country. I next visited Jaderpoliam, a village consisting mostly of weavers. Wages are 3 annas for men and $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas for women and nobody has been to Ceylon though a few have been to Penang. People are not at all keen on emigration.

ON THE 28TH—I visited Nanjai Idayar a village of padayachies. Men earn 5 annas and women 2 annas a day. A few have gone to Ceylon but a far greater number to Penang. The debts are Rs. 10 to Rs. 30 a head. The country is very fertile around here and there is plenty of water as the lands are irrigated by the Cauvery River. At the next village, Poiery, composed of about 50 houses of Padayachies, men earn from 4 annas to 6 annas a day, women 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas. One or two have gone to Ceylon from here but have never been heard of again or sent money to their villages. The debts are from Rs. 15 to 25. At another village I stopped at called Sinnampalayam, composed entirely of Padayachies, the local wages are 4 annas for men and 2 annas for women. No one has emigrated to Ceylon from here and have no desire to do so as they have plenty of work in their gardens and fields which are very fertile. Debts are from 4 to 10 a head. At the next village, Olayapalayam, consisting of Vellalas and Padayachies, men earn 4 annas and women 2 annas a day. A few people have gone to Penang but no one to Ceylon from here. The debts do not exceed Rs. 5 a head. At the next village Palapatty, the surrounding lands are all very fertile and there is plenty of water. Wages are 4 annas and 2 annas respectively and a few people have gone to Ceylon as well as to Penang. The debts are from Rs. 10 to Rs. 30. The lands are let out on contracts by the Landlords, who do not live in the locality and the people complain that they occasionally sustain loss if the river water fails, hence many of them emigrate. I interviewed the village Munsiff here who was extremely

obliging and promised to give all the assistance he could. Between this village and the next, Erumayanayakanpolayam and for some little way beyond it, the road runs between paddy fields, which appear to be well irrigated and flourishing. At the last mentioned village, the wages are 4 annas and 2 annas respectively and debts from Rs. 10 to 20 a head. No one has gone to Ceylon and the villagers said they had no desire to do so as they had plenty of work all the year round in their paddy fields.

ON THE 30TH—I again visited the Agency at Namakal which was a distance of 15 miles from my camp at Velur.

ON THE 31ST—Having covered all the roads in this Taluk, I chartered a bullock bandy and visited some villages off the beaten track. The first of these, Virahampalayam, composed of about 150 houses. The local wages are 4 annas and $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas respectively. A great many have gone to Penang from here and a very few to Ceylon. The local debts are from Rs. 10 to 20. The second village called Suriyampalayam consists of about 70 houses of Vellalas. No one has been to Ceylon but several to Penang. The local wages are 4 annas and 2 annas and debts from Rs. 10 to 30 a head. One man talked at great length about the advantages of going to Penang rather than to Ceylon and told me they earned much higher wages over there and therefore had more inducement to go. At Nattamadu, a small village of Vellalas, local wages are 4 annas and 2 annas and all the people have their own lands. No one has emigrated from here at all and did not appear to have any keenness to do so. I made 2 halts during my camp, one at Namakal and the other at Velur. The country, as I have already remarked, is in a very barren state around Namakal and water is needed everywhere, on proceeding to Velur on the 26th, the first thing that struck me was the greenness everywhere and the prosperous appearance of all vegetation. Paddy cultivation as well as numerous plantain gardens, seem to be the chief things grown here and there a great many coconut palms, all of which reminded me very much of the West Coast. The paddy fields yield 2 crops a year and there is plenty of water to be had from the river Cauvery all the year round, which was chest deep in some parts while I was there. Men get from 2 to 4 annas and women 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas a day, but they seem quite satisfied and have no desire to leave the place. They incur debts from Rs. 30 to 40 a head.

ON THE 1ST APRIL—I returned to Salem having covered during my tour a distance of 413 miles by road. What has struck me more than anything during this tour, with regard to the knowledge of the advantages of emigration, possessed by the average villager, in his apparent preference and greater knowledge of Penang. The first thing almost you hear from the villagers who cluster round you, is "Penang Notice," and so on. One man who came up close to me and looked with awe at my Signet ring, turned to one of his friends and said "Penang seal." The greater knowledge and preference for Penang is easily explained by the fact that the cooly does return from there with plenty of money to throw about, and thus advertises Penang by this

fact saying what good wages he gets over there. This only bears out what I have already said in my previous reports, that it is the cooly himself, and not the Kangany, who by returning to his village with good impressions and his pockets well filled, or writing from Ceylon to his relations, forms one of the most valuable advertisements that can possibly be imagined. The only person who does his best to hamper this form of advertisement, is the Kangany, who I fear has sown his seed over here, so that it has taken root so deeply and mistrust of him is so deeply impeded in nearly all the villages in which he has recruited, that it will only be pos-

sible to uproot this mistrust if Superintendents themselves take the matter in hand and organize a system of correspondence between the cooly and his relations. A single instance of one villager being badly bitten by a Kangany and it is not a case of he or she alone being shy on the second occasion, but all the inhabitants for about 10 or 15 miles round having their eyes opened to the policy of recruitment adopted by the average Kangany.

Yours faithfully,
E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched monthly from each Agency during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.
Telugu Circle.					
Guntakal	1912	6	16	22	4
"	1913	76	31	107	81
"	1914	22	29	51	22
Cuddapah	1912	4	11	15	22
"	1913	15	2	17	13
"	1914	12	33	45	...
Guntur	1912	...	63	63	8
"	1913	...	...	...	...
"	1914	2	2	4	6
Nellore	1912	9	...	9	18
"	1913	17	25	42	52
"	1914	7	...	7	7
Chittoor	1912	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	2
"	1914	...	...	...	16
Madras (For-warding Agency)	1912	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...
Arcot Circle.					
Katpadi	1912	216	257	473	140
"	1913	252	231	483	150
"	1914	102	140	242	171
Arkonam	1912	201	67	268	56
"	1913	87	112	199	78
"	1914	114	69	183	61
Chingleput	1912	120	105	225	136
"	1913	99	132	231	223
"	1914	55	78	133	107
Villupuram	1912	118	156	274	266
"	1913	166	177	343	328
"	1914	118	140	258	167
Salem Circle.					
Nanjangode	1912	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	12
"	1914	19	6	25	15
Dharmapuri	1912	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	35	35	36
"	1914	9	25	34	9

Agencies.	Years.				Jan.	Feb.	Total	March.	Total.
Salem Circle.									
Suppam	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	5	16	21	2	23
Cirupatur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	22	22	15	37
"	1914	...	...	...	6	6	12	...	12
Salem	1912	...	...	...	126	132	258	157	415
"	1913	...	...	...	63	124	187	210	397
"	1914	...	...	...	42	71	113	122	235
Jolarpet (For-warding Agency)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	3	26	29	48	77
"	1914	...	...	...	21	21	42	42	84
Namsakal	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	18	15	33	58	91
"	1914	...	...	...	23	41	64	55	119
uraiyur	1912	...	...	...	5	32	37	6	43
"	1913	...	...	...	5	27	32	49	81
"	1914	...	...	...	16	5	21	51	72
Iusiri	1912	...	...	...	3	15	18	29	47
"	1913	...	...	...	20	4	24	8	32
"	1914	...	...	...	13	2	15	19	34
Headquarter Circle.									
annanore	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	2	2	15	17
"	1914	...	...	...	85	18	53	27	80
Alghat	1912	...	...	...	36	66	102	56	158
"	1913	...	...	...	84	90	174	71	245
"	1914	...	...	...	38	89	127	65	192
Arode	1912	...	...	...	134	135	269	144	413
"	1913	...	...	...	145	187	332	262	594
"	1914	...	...	...	50	106	156	121	277
Arur	1912	...	...	...	46	67	113	83	196
"	1913	...	...	...	64	71	135	61	196
"	1914	...	...	...	30	83	113	73	186
Richinopoly	1912	...	...	...	740	1036	1776	1556	3332
"	1913	...	...	...	994	1201	2195	1453	3648
"	1914	...	...	...	740	796	1536	1371	2907
Unaparai	1912	...	...	...	111	103	214	185	349
"	1913	...	...	...	224	141	365	171	536
"	1914	...	...	...	28	25	53	69	122
Indigul	1912	...	...	...	75	90	165	139	304
"	1913	...	...	...	168	154	322	178	500
"	1914	...	...	...	140	125	265	149	414
Anjore	1912	...	...	...	42	94	136	165	301
"	1913	...	...	...	109	146	255	149	404
"	1914	...	...	...	111	175	286	252	538
Ammapatam	1912	...	...	...	8	54	62	60	122
"	1913	...	...	...	43	43	86	49	135
"	1914	...	...	...	35	20	55	29	84
Uducottah	1912	...	...	...	89	108	197	121	318
"	1913	...	...	...	56	111	167	65	232
"	1914	...	...	...	44	96	140	122	262
Sadara Circle.									
Sadara	1912	...	...	...	275	255	530	293	823
"	1913	...	...	...	220	162	382	149	531
"	1914	...	...	...	293	246	539	438	977
Amban	1912	...	...	...	8	14	22	89	111
"	1913	...	...	...	11	17	28	75	103
"	1914	...	...	...	48	10	58	closed	58

Agencies.	Years.				Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.
Madura Circle.									
Mandapam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	128	128
Tinnevely	... 1912	...	...	...	94	122	216	136	352
"	... 1913	...	...	...	121	88	209	147	356
"	... 1914	...	...	...	133	108	241	113	354
Tattaparai	... 1912	...	...	...	256	191	447	312	759
"	... 1913	...	...	...	267	352	619	433	1052
"	... 1914	...	...	...	122	161	283	157	440
Tuticorin (For...	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" warding...	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Agency)	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	... 1912	...	...	...	109	177	286	134	420
"	... 1913	...	...	...	111	109	220	129	349
"	... 1914	...	...	...	111	56	167	44	211
Closed Agencies.									
Coconada	... 1912	...	...	...	..	19	19	10	29
"	... 1913	...	...	...	6	15	21	37	58
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	... 1912	...	...	...	89	24	113	13	125
"	... 1913	...	...	...	closed	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	... 1912	...	...	...	23	17	40	14	54
"	... 1913	...	...	...	22	29	51	18	69
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	... 1912	...	...	...	...	27	27	12	36
"	... 1913	...	...	...	19	25	44	2	46
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tiru	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	6	5	11	10	21
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	... 1912	...	...	...	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710
"	... 1913	...	...	...	3491	3911	7402	4837	12233
"	... 1914	...	...	...	2544	2798	5342	4030	9372

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR APRIL & MAY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Chittoor Circle						
Chittoor	Chittoor	... Paddy, ragi and cholam harvest is very poor.	2 to 3	2	Fair	Chittoor District is in a bad way for lack of rain. There is no water in the wells tanks and the price of foodstuffs is going up. There is very little work to be had as people are leaving the district to find it. If we as usual have very little rain in April or May recruiting prospects ought to be very good.
	Kalahastri	... do	do	do	do	
	Karvetnagar	... do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Palmanair	... Paddy harvest indifferent. Cholam and ragi harvest is very poor.				
	Punganur	... do	do	do	Fair	
	Chendragiri	... do	do	do	do	
	Vayalpad	... do	do	do	do	
	Madanapalli	... do	do	do	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR APRIL & MAY, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Tamil Districts.						
Chingleput ...	Chingleput ...	Paddy fair.	5	5	Fair	Harvesting will continue into April, but in May the prospects ought to be very good.
	Conjeeveram ...	Ragi good, paddy fair.	do	do	do	
	Madurantakam	Ragi fair and groundnuts good.	4	do	do	
	Ponneri ...	Paddy good, cumbu and cholam are fair.	4	2½ to 3	do	
	Saidapet ...	Paddy fair.	6	3½	do	
	Tiruvallur ...	Paddy and groundnuts are good.	4	2½ to 3	do	
South Arcot...	Villupuram ...	Paddy and ragi.	5	3	Pretty Fair	As the groundnut digging is over the prospects for the next two months are distinctly good.
	Tindivanam ...	Ragi and cholam.	do	do	fair	
	Viruthachelam...	Cumbu and ragi.	do	do	Good	
	Tirukoilur ...	Paddy, ragi and cumbu.	do	do	do	
	Gingee ...	do	do	do	do	
	Kallakurchi ...	Groundnuts and ragi.	do	do	Pretty fair	
	Chidambaram ...	Cocoa and tobacco.	do	do	do	
	Cuddalore ...	Paddy and ragi.	do	do	do	
Telugu Districts.						
Cuddapah ...	Cuddapah ...	Harvesting finished.	4	2	Available	This is the time to begin recruiting in this district and I gather from the Collector that conditions will be bad in Badvel Taluq and prospects therefore good.
	Badvel ...	do	8	4	Not available	
	Pulivendla ...	do	do	do	do	
	Kamalapuram ...	do	4	2	Available	
	Royachoty ...	do	6	3	do	
	Rajampet ...	do	4	2	do	
	Sidhout ...	do	3	2	do	
	Proddatur ...	do	8	3	Not available	
Jammalamadugu	do	6	do	Available		
Nellore ...	Nellore ...	Young paddy good.	3½	2½	Indifferent	In most parts of this district the crops in various states of progress are good and the people have at present plenty to do and are comfortably off.
	Venkatagiri ...	do	do	2	do	
	Soolurpet ...	do	do	1½	do	
	Gudur ...	do	4	2	do	
	Rapur ...	do	2	1	do	
	Athmakur ...	do	2½	1½	do	
	Kavali ...	do	3	2	do	
	Udaiyagiri ...	do	2	1	do	
	Kanigiri ...	do	do	do	do	
	Kanthukur ...	do	2½	1½	do	
	Podili ...	do	do	do	do	
	Dharsi ...	do	2	1	do	
	Kovoor ...	do	4	3	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR APRIL & MAY, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
Telugu District.			Annas.	Annas.		
Guntur	Guntur	... Lands level plough and manure, Expecting rain if rain falls seeds their lands in cholam-cumbu-redgram and cotton.	4	3	Very Fair	Tenali is not a good recruiting ground, but the other taluqs should be well worth visiting, especially if there is poor rain or none.
	Satnapalli	... do	do	do	do	
	Narasarowpet	... do	do	do	do	
	Venukonda	... do	do	do	do	
	Tenali	... Paddy is sown in the latter part of May.	do	do	do	
Anantapur	Anantapur	... Harvest cholam and ragi good.	5	3	Moderate	
	Dharmavareem	... Ripe cholam and ragi good.	4	2	do	
	Gooty	... Ripe cumbu and cholam good.	4	1½	do	
	Kadiri	... do	do	2	Bad	
	Kaliandrug	... Ripe cholam excellent.	4½	do	Moderate	
	Todpatry	... Harvest cholam poor.	5	2½	do	
	Bellary	... Harvest paddy and ragi good.	5	2½	Moderate	
Bellary	Royadrug	... do	do	do	do	
	Hospet	... Harvest paddy excellent.	do	do	do	
	Adoni	... do	4½	2	do	
	Uruvakonda	... Harvest cumbu and cholam poor.	4	2	Bad	
Kurnool	Kurnool	... Harvest paddy excellent.	5	2½	Moderate	
	Nandiyal	... Cotton harvest good.	4½	2	do	
	Dhone	... do	5	do	do	
North Arcot	Arkonam	... Ripe ragi and paddy good. Cumbu sowing depends on ein	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	Both in this district and in Chittoor there seems to be a sudden activity on the part of the Government, and a great number of coolies are being employed at 6 annas a day cutting out prickly pear and doing other odd jobs of this sort.
	Gudiyatam	... do	4	2	do	
	Vellore	... do	4 to 5	2 to 3	do	
	Polur	... do	do	do	do	
	Walaja	... do	do	do	do	
	Cheyar	... do	do	do	do	
	Tiruvanamalay	... do	do	do	do	
	Arni	... do	do	2	do	
	Arcot	... do	do	do	do	

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,

Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Karur Agency.						
Trichinopoly and Coimbatore.	{ Karur and Dharapuram }	Agent reports no crops.	4	3	Not very good.	People are engaged in the cultivation of cholam, ragi and chillies. Prospects will probably improve in April.
G. S. DUPEN, Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 27th March, 1914.						
Erode Agency.						
Coimbatore ...	{ Erode ... Palladam ... Bhavani ... Gobichetty-palayam ... Avanashi ... P. Dharapuram ... Satyamangalam ... Udumalpet ... Pollachi and Kollegal ... }	No standing crops.	3½ to 4	2½ to 3	Fair	Agent reports that rice, cholam, kambo and ragi are fairly cheap just now. There is little work going on in the fields.
G. S. DUPEN, Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 27th March, 1914.						
Dindigul Agency.						
Madura and Coimbatore	{ Dindigul ... Palany ... Kulitalai ... Udumalpet ... }	Not very good	4 to 6	3 to 4	Fair	Labour is available in the Palany and Dindigul Taluks. Harvesting is still going on in some parts.
G. S. DUPEN, Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 30th March, 1914.						
Madura Agency.						
Madura ...	{ Madura ... Maloor ... Periakulam ... Nellakottai ... Thirumangalam ... Ramanad ... Thirupovanam ... Sivaganga ... Thirupattoor ... Mana Madura ... }	The crop prospects are mostly bad.	to 6	3 to 4	Recruiting prospects are good.	There is a great scarcity of water in the Madura District and the crops are suffering for the want of it. I think a large amount of labour will be available in April and May.
G. S. DUPEN, Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 30th March, 1914.						
Palghat and Cannanore Agencies.						
Malabar ...	{ Palghat ... Walawanad ... Ernad ... Kurumbanad ... Calicut ... Ponani ... Chirakkal ... Kottayam ... }	No crops at present.	4 to 5	2½ to 3	Good	There is a good deal of labour available in most parts of Malabar until end of May.
G. S. DUPEN, Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 30th March, 1914.						

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR APRIL & MAY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarter Circle.						
Trichinopoly	(Manaparai Agency)	Not good.				
	Kulitalai ...	Scarcity of water is felt in surrounding villages.	4	3	Good	There is a failure of crops in most parts round Manaparai. The Recruiting prospects are good.
Tanjore	(Tanjore Agency)					
	Arantangi ...	Harvested				
	Kumbakonam ...	paddy and				
	Mannargudi ...	ground-nuts				
	Mayavaram ...	in some parts				
	Nannilam ...	with fair	4	3	Fair	
	Negapatam ...	result.				
	Papanasam ...	Transplanting				
	Pattukottai ...	of paddy in				
	Shiyali ...	progress in				
Puducottah State.	Tanjore	others.				
	Tiruturaipoondi					
	(Ammapatnam Agency)	Crops harvest-				
	Pattukottai ...	ed with good	5 to 6	2½ to 3	Good	Harvest is over. The Recruiting prospects are good.
	Arantangi ...	result.				
Puducottah State.	(Puducottah Agency)	Harvest of dry crops is over and that of wet crops is approaching completion.	5½	4	Good	Except Kolatur Taluk the harvest of crops is very good. Coolies are now going to Ceylon from Alangudi Taluk. The Recruiting prospects in the other 2 Taluks are expected to be good when the harvest is completely over.
	Alangudi ...					
Puducottah State.	(Puducottah Agency)	Dry crops harvested. Wet crops only half harvested.	6	5	Fair	
	Thirumayam ...					
Tinnevely	Kolatur	Dry crops harvested and that of wet crops still going on.				
	(Tinnevely & Tataparai Agencies.)					
	Ambasamudram	Good	5	3		
	Tenkasi ...	Fair	5½	4		
	Tinnevely ...	do	6	4		
	Nangunery ...	do	6	3		
	Sreevaikundam	Good	6	3½	Not good	
	Tiruchendur ...	Fair	5½	3		
	Sankarankoil ...	do	5	3		
	Koilpatti ...	Not good	6	4		
Travancore	Trevandrum ...	Fair	4	2½	Not good	
	(Mandapam Agency.)	Crops fair.				
Ramnad	Sathur ...	Harvest of dry and				
	Sirivilliputur ...	wet crops				
	Ramnad ...	is going on.	4	3	fair.	
	Kamudi ...	The tanks				
	Rasimangalam...	have water				
	Mudukolatur ...	to last for				
	Kannangudi ...	1½ months.				
	(Tondi Agency.)					
	Tiruvadanai ...	Crops good.				
	Tirupatur ...	Harvest is still in	4 to 6	3 to 4	fair.	
Sivaganga	Dammabudi	progress.				

The flow of emigration will begin when the harvest is completely over.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner
8th April 1914

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR APRIL & MAY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
Salem	Salem Town	Bad	5	2½	Bad	Coolies are available, but they cannot be had for Ceylon, as the D. P. W. has started extensive building works.
Salem	Salem Taluk	Moderate where well water does not fail.	4	2	Fair	Coolies can be had in the surrounding villages for a radius of 12 miles from Salem Town if recruited by others than Kanganies as the latter have left a very bad impression
Salem	Omalur	Bad in parts of the Taluk and moderate in other parts.	4	2	Good	There is plenty of labour available in the Northern part of this Taluk where crops have completely failed and the people are more or less starving and will work for a very low wage. They are afraid of emigration, as they think they will be sold in Ceylon, but if properly recruited by Europeans, will gain confidence and trust and a large number can be got to go. The coolies are hard-working strong men.
Salem	Trichengode	Moderate	4	2	Poor	As a result of my own investigations I found a lot of the villagers very keen on emigrating from this Taluk, but at the same time a great deal is done by the Local Mittadars who own extensive lands to discourage coolies from emigrating by misrepresenting the way they are treated in Ceylon.
Salem	Uttengarai	Bad	4	2	Good	A great many coolies are available in this Taluk, but prefer Penang to Ceylon, as several kanganies have recruited labour and have taken people away without their parent's knowledge and nothing has been heard of them since. In spite of the extensive advertising I have done in this Taluk the kangany's policy of recruitment is mistrusted, as it is in most other places.
Salem	Attur	Good	4	3	Moderate	Being the close of the official year, many Government contracts, for which most of the labourers available are utilised, are being rapidly pushed on to a close. Extensive recruiting for the Straits, Penang and Fiji Island is being undertaken and the season therefore does not promise to be overgood in this Taluk.
Salem	Dharmapuri	Fair	4	3	Moderate	A fair amount of labour is to be had in this Taluk, but coolies on estates must be encouraged to write to their friends and relations. There are a large number of Professional Recruiters always working in this Taluk.
Salem	Hosur	Fair	4	2	Very Fair	It is now in the approaching hot weather that coolies leave this Taluk and go farther afield to earn their wages, so that endeavours should be made to recruit in these parts if possible before they go. Canarese labour is available in parts of this Taluk.
Salem	Krishnagiri	Fair	4	2	Moderate	Labourers are available in parts of this Taluk, though there has been a fair amount of rain.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR APRIL & MAY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.		
			Men.	Women.				
			Annas.	Annas.				
Salem Circle.								
Trichinopoly	Namakal	...	Bad	3 to 4	1½ to 2½	Moderate	In parts of this Taluk groundnut is still being harvested and will continue to be for another month. Scarcity of water and poorness of crops is the general complaint in most parts of this Taluk, except in the south near the Cauvery and where there is plenty of water, and everything looks very prosperous. In a great many cases, though kangaries are instructed by the Agent and given information regarding the best areas for recruiting, they do not take the trouble to visit them if it is at all out of their way to do so.	
Trichinopoly	{	Musiri	...	Paddy fair.	4 to 6	3	Very Fair.	Paddy produce has been good. Extensive recruiting for Penang is being undertaken in these parts and is, I believe, being met with considerable success, as Penang is preferred to Ceylon in many cases on account of the enormous wages paid and the apparently large sums of money with which the coolies from that country return with their pockets filled, and which the labourer says is not the case when coolies return from Ceylon.
			A small portion has yet to be harvested.	3 to 5	in 2 to 3 in Villages			
		Kulitalai	...	Other crops have been harvested and lands are dry.	Children from 1½ to 2½ ans., both in Towns and Villages.			
		Perambalore	...					
North Arcot...	Tirupathur	...	Bad	4	1½	Moderate	The labourer is paid in kind during the harvest season at the rate of as much cut crops as he or she can conveniently carry in a bundle, i.e., not more than 3 measure either of Paddy or Ragi.	
Mysore	{	Bangalore	...	Paddy and cholam harvested.	5	2½	Moderate	Ceylon has to be very extensively advertised in this state before there will be much success in recruiting. The same remarks with regard to the paying in kind, as applied to Tirupathur, apply to these parts also.
		Closepet	...	Moderate	4½	2	do	
		Chenpatna	...	Bad	4½	2½	do	
		Bouringpet	...	Good	4	2	Bad	
		Thadbillupuram	...	do	3½	1½	do	
		Kunigal	...	Fair	4	2	Moderate	
Mysore	{	Nanjangud	...	Crops are all harvested.	5	3	Fair.	Coolies are available as the harvest season is over, river water has gone down and rain is needed badly. Most of the labourers are under advances to private persons and their debts must be met if they are recruited. Most of the coolies from these parts are accustomed to go to estate in the Nilgiris every year or surrounding Coffee Estates in the State and are therefore very keen on Ceylon.
		Narasipur	...					
		Chamrajanagar	...					

E. V. B. LEVINGE,

Assistant Commissioner,

Salem Circle.

29th March, 1914.



THE EDITOR,
The Planting Gazette,

April 21st, 1914.

SIR,

Mr. Elson's letter is interesting and his criticism is to a certain extent justified. It is common knowledge that considerable variations occur in the chemical analyses of different samples of bulk manure, vide Aikman pp. 223 and 224 3rd imp. In considering results allowance must of course be made for these variations.

Another analysis of bulk treated under similar conditions is given below. The samples were taken from the same pits, but two years intervened so that a totally different lot of manure was dealt with in each case. The results were as follows,

Poonac fed cattle manure,	Nit.	P.A.	Pot.
1 ton contains	...	12.9	11.4 9.0
Patna fed cattle manure			
1 ton contains	...	14.0	3.7 14.9

allowing for the variations mentioned above, the results are similar enough to those of the previous analyses.

Mr. Elson's premises are wrong, the pits for the Poonac fed cattle manure were not thatched with mana grass, and here probably is the explanation of the difference in the analyses to which he calls attention. Green mana grass contains, I should imagine, as much if not more nitrogen and potash than straw of any kind, considering that the latter loses most of its manurial ingredients in maturing the grain it bears. The poonac fed cattle manure litter consisted only of the soiled straw from the gala and no very large quantity of that, while the patna fed cattle manure pits were thatched every day with a large amount of green mana grass, probably in the proportion of several tons of mana grass to each ton of dung.

As a matter of fact no kainit was applied to any of the manure so Mr. Elson's basic slag theory may be dismissed.

From the analyses no "mix up in the laboratory" appears probable.

All the samples were taken under my personal supervision and no "sideslips, so common with the Tamil cooly" were made.

R. B.

Notice to Correspondent.

"TWENTY YEARS OF IT."—Your letter is not signed or even authenticated and so cannot be published in our columns.—Ed.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month ending March, 1914.

		DETAIL.																				Instructional Staff					
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Tptrs.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Medical Officer.	Vet'y. Officer.	Total.
Regtl. Staff																											
A. Squadron																											
Staff		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	4						
No. I. Troop					1															22	25	26					
" II. "				1																4	4	5					
" III. "					1									1						17	20	21					
" IV. "					1									1						3	3	1	20	28	29		
TOTAL		1	1	3	3	5	5				1	1	3		1	5	5	1	63	80	85						
B. Squadron																											
Staff		1	1				2				1	1			1					3	5						
No. I. Troop					1		1							1						11	14	15					
" II. "														1						11	13	13					
" III. "					1		1							1						1	17	20	21				
" IV. "					1		1							1						7	11	12					
TOTAL		1	1	3	3	5	5				1	1	4		1	4	1	3	46	61	66						
Total Regt. Staff		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1					1						3	8						
Total A. Squadron			1	1	3		5						3		1	5	5	1	63	80	85						
Total B. Squadron					3		5						4		1	4	1	3	46	61	66						
Total Strength		1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1		2	2	7	1	2	9	6	4	109	144	159						
Total Strength last Return		1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1		2	2	6		2	10	6	4	109	143	158						
Increase Since																											
Decrease Since																											
Establishment		1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	3	8	184	234	252	1	1	1			3
Wanting to Complete					3		3						2			4	2	4	75	90	93						
Reserve		1	1	2	6		10	1	1	1	1	1	7			2	1		29	43	53						
Total including Reserve		2	4	5	13	1	25	2	2	1	3	2	14	1	2	11	7	4	138	187	212						
		STEVENSON Captain																									

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,
Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1914.

		VOLUNTEER STAFF.														
Coy.	SECTION.	Lieut.-Colonel. Majors. Captains. Lieutenants. 2nd Lieutenants. Adjutant. Qr. Master. Sergt.-Major. Qr. M. Sergt.	Colour-Sergeant. Sergeant. Lance-Sergts. & Corples. Sergt.-Bugler. Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.											
	Staff	1	1	2	3	32	4									
A.	Kelani Valley	1	1	2	3	32	39									
	Ratnapura	1	1	2	3	9	11									
	Pelmadulla	1	1	2	3	10	10									
B.	Kandy	1	1	2	3	16	20									
	Matale	1	1	2	3	12	15									
	Madulkelle	1	1	2	3	5	7									
C.	Rangalla	1	1	2	3	10	12									
	Mattakelle	1	1	2	3	5	9									
	Agrapatna	1	1	2	3	8	11									
	Kotagalla	1	1	2	3	9	11									
	Daraweila	1	1	2	3	6	6									
	Maskeliya	1	1	2	3	9	11									
	Bogawantalawa	1	1	2	3	6	7									
D.	Nuwara Eliya	1	1	2	3	10	11									
	Madulsima	1	1	2	3	9	11									
	Haputale	1	1	2	3	13	15									
	Badulla	1	1	2	3	17	21									
	Uda Pussellawa	1	1	2	3	7	10									
E.	Batticaloa	1	1	2	3	9	11									
	Kalutara	1	1	2	3	21	25									
	Kurunegalla	1	1	2	3	16	17									
	Galle	1	1	2	3	21	22									
	Morawak Korale	1	1	2	3	9	12									
	Anuradhapura	1	1	2	3	9	11									
	Trincomalie	1	1	2	3	4	5									
F.	Colombo	1	1	2	3	43	50									
G.	Ambegamuwa	1	1	2	3	9	11									
	Pussellawa	1	1	2	3	13	15									
	Dolosbage	1	1	2	3	9	11									
H.	Colombo	1	2	3	4	44	55									
	Motor Cycle Section	1	1	2	3	15	18									
* TOTAL STRENGTH		1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1	6	18	25	1	5	406	489
Strength by last Return		1	2	8	6	7	2	1	1	6	17	26	1	6	404	488
Increase Since				1						1				2		
Decrease Since											1	1				
C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File							56	=	65	Total.	Increase				1	
Total Strength including Reserve							554			Reserve	Decrease				3	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj't. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.



HEWAHETA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Hewaheta Planters' Association was held at the Pattiagama Club House on Saturday, the 28th March, at 1 p.m. The following were present:—Messrs. Carey, Hickman, Walton, North, Harris, Tonks, and W. C. Hawkes (Chairman and Hon. Secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read, and duly signed.

ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that the Gonavy-Rathungoda road was to be metalled in the coming financial year, the work to be begun about September next. The cutting back of passing places on the Deltota road has been begun.

Mr. CAREY proposed, and Mr. HICKMAN seconded, that the Director of Public Works be written to asking whether crossing places the same as on the Morawakale-Galle road were to be made this year.—Carried.

HEWAHETA POST OFFICE.

TIME OF CLOSING MAILS.

The letter from the P.M.G. was read and discussed and Major WALTON proposed that the "A" alternative, viz., that the present arrangements to catch the new down night mail with the later time of closing the mails at the Hewaheta Post Office as proposed by the P. M. G. be asked for.

Seconded by Mr. Carey and carried.

Mr. ARMSTRONG wrote complaining of the late arrival of the tappal runner, and the Hon. Secretary was asked to communicate with the P. M. G. requesting him to give instructions that the proper time of arrival be adhered to.

UNOFFICIAL POLICE MAGISTRATE.

A letter from the D. M. O. was read asking for a member to be appointed U. P. M. in place of Mr. Deane, who has left the district. After some discussion,

Mr. CAREY proposed that Government be asked to appoint Mr. G. W. Harris to this post to act in conjunction with his duties of Coroner by the Lower Hewaheta district.

Seconded by Mr. HICKMAN and carried.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

This matter was discussed, but as no answer had been received to the letter asking Government to pass the Deltota road for full lorry-traffic, the Hon. Secretary was asked to write again on the subject and also inquire whether the Hanguranketa road had been or would be passed for motor-traffic, and that if only one of these roads can be sanctioned this year that the Deltota road have the preference, as transport facilities were worse on it than the other. Proposed and seconded by Messrs. WALTON and CAREY, and carried.

Read letter from the Badulla P. A. *re* Government reservation for paths, minor roads and streams when selling land. This was heartily supported by all present.

ROAD TAX.

A letter was read from the Chairman, Nuwara Eliya District Roads Committee, pointing out that some planters do not pay road tax on horse-keepers, kitchen-coolies and all immigrant labourers not actually engaged in agricultural labour, in consequence of which less money is available for the upkeep of minor roads. This matter was supported and the Hon. Secretary instructed to send extracts of the letter round to all members of the Association.

DELTOTA HOSPITAL.

The visitor's report was read and the following paragraph discussed:—"Dispensary: the accommodation here is very cramped and this could be avoided to a great extent if one of the sets of shelves for medicine bottles were removed. There appears to be an unwritten rule that only one row of bottles may be put on a shelf. The shelves are 15 in. wide and two rows could easily be arranged so that the names on the bottles would be easily seen without trouble. If one set was cleared out this would give another 6 feet of space and so help considerably to solve the present trouble of overcrowding the dispenser's and assistant doctor's office space."

From the above, the meeting considered that the P.C.M.O.'s attention should be called to the lack of accommodation in the dispensary quarters, which could easily be added.

RICE.

Owing to the absence of Mr. Popham and several other members the resolution standing in his name *re* the rates for rice issued to coolies was held over until the next meeting.

POLICE GUARD AT DAROYA.

Read letter from the Superintendent of Police on this matter. The Hon. Secretary was asked to send it on to members not present for their remarks.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

The CHAIRMAN announced that as a result of the resolution put forward by Mr. North at the last meeting an increase in subscriptions of Rs. 90 to this fund had been obtained. (Applause.)

There being no further business the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

WALTER C. HAWKES,
Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

KELANI VALLEY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Ordinary General Meeting of the Kelani Valley Planters' Association, which was held at the Taldua Club on Saturday, was very largely attended, and several matters of interest were discussed. The Chairman (Mr. L. Bayly) presided, and there were also present Messrs. C. F.

Hutchinson, Chas. Bouchier, J. Farley Elford, J. C. L. Brereton, C. E. Miller, C. J. A. Marshall, A. H. Jones, J. E. G. Smith, Jas. D. Dunlop, H. W. Byrde, A. C. Cunningham, C. G. Jones, D. I. Mackenzie, R. W. P. Bell, J. L. Cameron, Geoffrey, Binns, F. B. Muir, R. I. Mackenzie, F. Duncan, A. D. Gilbert Burnett, R. H. C. Edwards, G. Loughnan, J. M. Brace, J. H. Wynell Mayow, G. Agar (visitor), John Clark and J. C. Mitchell (Hon. Secretary).

The notice convening the meeting having been read and the minutes of the last meeting adopted, the Hon. Secretary read a telegram from Mr. A. Cantlay and letters from Messrs. T. Hyatt and A. Cochrane expressing their regret at being unable to attend.

KANDY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS.

A letter was read from Mr. A. M. Carmichael resigning his position on the Committee of the District Planters' Association and also his seat on the Kandy Committee. On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. DUNLOP, Mr. A. L. Baines was unanimously chosen to fill the vacancies thus created.

HOSPITAL VISITOR.

Mr. P. G. Wood wrote resigning his post as Official Visitor at the Kendangamuwa Hospital. On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. HUTCHINSON, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. B. A. Starling, who lives close to the hospital, should be appointed in Mr. Wood's place.

A PROCTOR'S POSTCARD.

With reference to Mr. E. W. Edis's letter to the Association concerning the conduct of a proctor, who wrote a postcard to the head kangany of an estate, to which strong exception had been taken, Mr. J. C. MITCHELL explained that at a previous meeting he was instructed to write to the Law Society on the subject. He wrote that letter and had received a reply from the Secretary of the Law Society saying that the Society would take the matter up. On January 22nd he wrote again to the Secretary of the Law Society to the effect that he would be obliged for any further information which might be available. Receiving no reply he wrote a third letter on March 7th asking for the favour of a reply before the 21st in order that he might be able to lay the facts before his Association at their meeting on that day. To this letter he had so far received no reply.

Mr. ELFORD thought this matter ought not to be allowed to drop. Here was a postcard written by a proctor to a head kangany practically advising him to tell his coolies to give notice and that he, the proctor, would find them work elsewhere. In his opinion it was a most serious matter.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the Hon. Secretary might be instructed to write to Government pointing out the urgency of taking notice of this matter and of bringing it to a head. ("Hear, hear.")

The HON. SECRETARY: It is the Law Society we have been writing to so far, and I think, if they do not take satisfactory steps in the matter, the next thing for us to do will be to write to the Attorney-General, who is the absolute head of the legal element in the Island. I therefore ask the Association to empower me, in the event of my not re-

ceiving a satisfactory reply after another letter to the Law Society, to write straight away to the Attorney-General without waiting for another general meeting of the Association. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. R. I. MACKENZIE: Should not the Attorney-General have been written to in the first instance?

The HON. SECRETARY said the Association had thought it best to approach the Law Society in the first instance.

Mr. DUNCAN: The Law Society is a private organisation.

On the motion of Mr. ELFORD, seconded by Mr. HUTCHINSON, a resolution was passed in the following terms:—"That if a satisfactory reply is not received from the Law Society after another letter the Hon. Secretary be herewith empowered to approach the Attorney-General on the subject."

ARRACK AND TODDY TAVERNS.

The HON. SECRETARY said that at the last meeting a letter was read from the Hon. the Government Agent of the Western Province, Colombo, asking for any suggestion the Association might care to make relative to the closing of any arrack or toddy taverns in the district. At that meeting he (the Hon. Secretary) was requested to write to the Hon. the Government Agent of the Western Province particularly urging the abolition of the tavern at Udugama and calling attention to the large number of taverns between Waga and Padukka.

He received a reply from the G.A., W.P., dated February 10th, stating that he was in favour of the closing of the tavern named at the next rent, which begins in October. The Excise Department, the letter continued, had also been informed.

Mr. MITCHELL added that on the 19th he received a letter from the Excise Commissioner enclosing particulars of the number of new arrack taverns to be opened and of the number of existing taverns to be closed in the district on October 1st. These notices showed that two new taverns were to be opened and that 91 taverns (20 arrack and 71 toddy), including the Udugama tavern, were to be closed. (Applause.)

TAVERNS IN PLANTING DISTRICTS.

Mr. ELFORD drew the attention of the meeting to a resolution passed at the last meeting of the Kandy Committee. It read as follows:—"That this Committee is of opinion that no arrack tavern should be opened or licence be renewed in any planting district where general opposition has been expressed." He thought the Kelani Valley P.A. should support this resolution.

The CHAIRMAN said this resolution had been passed at Kandy and, he believed, would receive the support of the central Association. It was therefore only necessary that they, as a District P.A., should give their support and put the matter forward when new taverns were to be opened in the Kelani Valley district.

It was unanimously agreed to support the resolution.

D. R. C. MEMBER.

A letter was read from the Chairman of the District Road Committee at Kegalle stating that Mr. R. H. Villie

ad left the Island without resigning his position on the committee and requesting the nomination of a successor.

Mr. BELL proposed and Mr. CUNNINGHAM seconded that Mr. J. C. Mitchell be nominated to fill the vacancy.—Agreed.

THE BADULLA RESOLUTION REGARDING CROWN RESERVATIONS.

A letter was read from the Hon. Secretary of the Badulla P.A. enclosing the following resolution for support:—"That the reservation for paths, minor roads, and streams now being put on Crown land advertised for sale are, in a number of cases, unwarrantable and vexatious, and that Government be requested to empower the Government Agents to lease such reservations as they may consider unnecessary, to the purchaser, without reserve."

The CHAIRMAN said this resolution had been considered by the Parent Association, who had given it their support. The question was one which affected not only Badulla but the whole Island. The Parent Association had taken the matter up most strongly, and he thought all they could do was to write to the Hon. Secretary of the Badulla Association stating that the resolution had the support of the K.V.P.A.—Agreed.

The Chaplain Scheme.

STANDING COMMITTEE'S OFFER.

The Association then proceeded to consider the District Chaplain Scheme. The matter was introduced by the reading of a letter from the Rev. M. J. Burrows to Mr. A. H. Jones dated February 19th. Mr. Burrows enclosed a copy of a resolution passed by the Standing Committee of Synod at their last meeting, and, speaking for himself, said he believed that the Committee were most anxious to render the needful help in this matter of securing a Chaplain for the K.V. "If therefore," the letter continued, "you do not consider this proposal satisfactory I hope you will make some counter proposal to the Committee. You are likely, I believe, to see the Bishop in a few days and he will tell you what he thinks on the matter."

The resolution referred to was in the following terms:—"The Committee re-affirm their resolution of December 10th, 1912, which reads: 'The Standing Committee are prepared to guarantee passage money to Rs. 500 and stipend to Rs. 3,500 for three years for a Chaplain for the K.V. if a reasonable assurance is given from the District that the money will be repaid.' The Committee consider that the words reasonable assurance should be understood to mean that the local Association or other responsible body of persons undertake to repay at least two-thirds of the sum to be expended in three years during the currency of such years, and that they will do their utmost to repay the balance of the expenditure within the same period."

Mr. JONES explained that he received this letter and resolution in reply to a letter which he wrote to Mr. Burrows asking what the words "reasonable assurance" meant.

On the same subject, the CHAIRMAN announced that there was a letter from Mr. P. Byrde, Hon. Treasurer of the K.V. Stipend Fund, to the Hon. Secretary of the K.V.P.A. This letter, which had been handed over to Mr. Jones, en-

closed a letter from the Rev. A. LeFeuvre, of Talawakelle, stating that he had just heard from an old school friend, the Rev. H. A. Livermore, B.A., late R.N., and Head of the Watts Naval College in Norfolk, who, he thought, might be willing to accept an invitation to ministerial work among the Planters of the K.V. He was a thoroughly good all-round man.

Mr. HUTCHINSON: Might I ask, in the event of the offer of the Standing Committee being accepted, if the Padre is to be elected by the Bishop or by us?

Mr. JONES: The Bishop tells me that if you select the Padre the final selection rests with him. He would favour a very broad-minded man.

Reverting to Mr. Burrow's letter, Mr. Jones said the whole point was that the Standing Committee offered to give Rs. 11,000, of which sum the K.V. would have to guarantee to subscribe at least Rs. 7,400 within three years.

A member pointed out that all the members of the K.V.P.A. were not members of the Church of England, and Mr. Dunlop expressed the opinion that this matter should be left to the members of the Church of England in the K.V. to decide and not to the Planters' Association at all.

Mr. MARSHALL mentioned the church at Yativantota, which was opened not only for members of the Church of England but to Christians of all denominations, except Roman Catholics.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

Eventually Mr. MARSHALL proposed and Mr. ELFORD seconded: "That a sub-Committee be appointed to consider the matter and to make inquiries as to how much money they could collect."—Agreed.

The following were chosen to form this sub-Committee: Messrs. D. B. Williamson, A. H. Jones, P. Byrde, and C. J. Marshall.

ROADS.

The next item on the agenda was "Roads and motor transport." Concerning roads, the CHAIRMAN said the Director of Public Works had come down that day to give the Committee any information he possibly could concerning the roads in the District. With regard to the linking up of the Kendangamuwa and Dehiowita roads he had assured the Committee that this matter was having his attention. This would meet the want of the people in the far end of Panawal. With regard to the road through Pindeniya he learned that as Government had given up the idea of a railway station there for the present the D. P. W. had decided to do up the road from the junction with the Ritagoya Bridge to the 4½ mile.

Mr. DUNCAN thought this portion of the road had been done up already. A year ago Rs. 60,000 was voted for the construction of a new piece of road. This idea was dropped and then, he thought, the money was ordered to be spent on the roads in other directions.

The CHAIRMAN said he had no recollection that the money was ordered to be spent in other directions on the road.

WIDENING ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN said another matter was the question of the widening of the roads. A start had now been made with the widening in places of upwards of 100 miles of roads in this district with the object of making mechanical transport feasible and of generally facilitating all transport in the district. Some 100 miles of road—trunk and principal roads—were to be improved. A letter from the District Engineer, Avisawella, had been received on the subject.

The letter from the District Engineer, Avisawella, was read as follows:—

Avisawella, February 2nd 1914.

WIDENING ROADS.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith for the information of your Association copy of Government circular on the above subject, and trust that all the members of your Association concerned will agree to the principle laid down. A commencement has been made with the widening of roads in the District, and it is proposed, to push it on and complete it as soon as possible. It is proposed, at first, to widen the metal surface to 16 feet, to lengthen short culverts and to ease off bad bends. I do not anticipate that any great extent of damage will be done to the properties passed through, and the work will be carried out so as to reduce the damage to a minimum consistent with efficiency.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
W. J. THORNHILL,
District Engineer.

The circular alluded to laid down the general principle that priority should be given to the widening of roads for which the estates concerned give land free and do not claim compensation for damage.

Mr. HUTCHINSON thought this sounded rather like "bribery."

The CHAIRMAN said that Government intended to spend on the improvement of these roads something like 4 lakhs of rupees, and the damage and the encroachment upon estates would be very small. In Dimbula and the district around the land was being given free by the estates and the speaker thought it would be the wish of the K.V.P.A. that, if occasion arose and Government required a little estate land for the purpose, estates would give it for the benefit of the whole community in the District and in the Island. (Applause.)

NOTIFICATION OF FLOODED ROADS.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Secretary of the Automobile Club of Ceylon, Kandy, asking to be informed where notices of flooded roads should be posted. Would not resthouses in the vicinity and petrol installations be the best places? If so the writer asked that these might be named, and he would try and make arrangements for such notices to be put up when occasion occurred.

ONE MEMBER thought a better plan than posting notices would be to erect telephone sheds in the flooded areas so that wires might be sent to Kandy and from there on to Colombo informing motorists and others that the road was flooded or that the flooding was over and the road clear.

Mr. HUTCHINSON thought notices should be posted at the various Post Offices and at the Avisawella resthouse. They might also ask an arachchi in the District to wire news of the rise or the fall of the flood, the cost of the wires to be refunded.

The CHAIRMAN thought the matter ought to have the support of the Association. He thought it might be suggested to the Secretary of the Automobile Club that the Postmasters at the different Post Offices be authorised to give information to passing motorists. If notices were posted they might be taken down too soon or they might be allowed to remain up too long and give a false impression.

A MEMBER pointed out that the difficulty was that the Postmasters might not know where the flood was.

The CHAIRMAN said he presumed from the letter that the Automobile Club intended obtaining information from Government or from other people as to where the floods were.

Mr. MARSHALL suggested that the Mohandiram of the Hewagam Korale might be asked to send wires from Hawella announcing the flooding of the roads.

NOTICES AT ALL POST OFFICES.

It was ultimately agreed that the Secretary of the Automobile Club be written to suggesting that notices should be posted at all Post Offices.

VEYANGODA BRIDGE.

Mr. D. B. WILLIAMSON wrote with reference to the bridge on the Veyangoda road as follows:—"I shall be glad to know if Government have begun, or are beginning, the strengthening of the bridge at Veyangoda station to carry motor lorries as promised by them in correspondence with the Hon. Secretary, K.V.P.A., in 1913. At present, although I have permission from Government to use motor lorries, I am not allowed—on account of this road—to take a lorry nearer than within two miles of the station. The bridge in question is thirty yards from the railway line.

The HON. SECRETARY said that upon receipt of this letter he wrote to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, but merely received the usual formal reply.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought it was the duty of the Association to support Mr. Williamson in this matter. It did seem very hard that he, after having purchased a lorry, should have to continue unloading two miles from the station, particularly in view of Government's promise regard to the bridge.

It was decided to again write to Government on the matter.

Avisawella Station.

IMPROVEMENTS SUGGESTED TO THE GENERAL MANAGERS C. G. R.

The next subject on the agenda was "Railways." The Chairman remarked that at the last general meeting of the Association it was agreed to invite the General Managers C. G. R., to meet some of the planters in this district with reference to improvements which might be made at Avisawella Railway Station. The Hon. Secretary and speaker met Mr. G. P. Greene and his staff when they

in a visit up the line. They suggested to the General Manager that it would be a great convenience to have an enclosed platform at Avisawella where the train comes in from Ratnapura on the upper side of the line. This would provide accommodation for third class passengers, and would relieve the congestion at present occasioned in wet weather by the congregation of first, second and third class passengers near the booking office. They also suggested that more accommodation might be provided for first-class passengers. A first-class waiting room and improved refreshment room accommodation were advocated. The General Manager after due consideration of the matter said he regarded these suggestions most favourably, and added that they would have every attention. He hoped to have these improvements included in the estimates next October. (Applause.)

WANTED A CRANE AT DEHIOWITA.

Mr. DUNLOP, in accordance with notice given, moved "That application be made for the erection of a loading and unloading crane at Dehiowita Station."

Mr. DUNLOP said that last year he brought this matter up, and application was made for the crane, but, unfortunately, the Hon. Secretary of the Association at that time included in his letter asking for this crane a further application for a travelling crane. The reply was all about the travelling crane and the question of the loading and unloading crane was not mentioned. The speaker said he understood that the loading and unloading crane had only to be asked for to be supplied. At the present time there were frequently heavy loads at the station which necessitated the engagement of elephants to lift them. The travelling crane cost Rs. 10 per day and an elephant cost Rs. 10 a day, and it was cheaper to use an elephant. The speaker reminded the meeting that Dehiowita was the largest station on the line outside Maradana, and what they wanted was a crane similar to those at Yatiyantota and Avisawella—the last named station being the least important, from a traffic point of view on the line.

Mr. J. E. G. SMITH seconded and the resolution was carried unanimously.

DISTRICT COURT AT AVISAWELLA.

Referring to the question of the establishment of a District Court at Avisawella, the CHAIRMAN said he understood the matter was under the consideration of Government. There was every reason to believe that such a Court would be a great advantage to the European community as well as to the native population of the district. He asked the Association to sanction the Hon. Secretary writing again to the G.A., Sabaragamuwa, on the subject, and hinted at a latter possible deputation to H. E. the Governor in Colombo.

MR. SMEATON'S VIEWS.

On the same subject the CHAIRMAN reported having received a letter from Mr. A. F. B. Smeaton. Mr. Smeaton suggested that Government be asked to retain the resident police magistrate at Kegalle and Avisawella

and to appoint a District Judge to hear cases say 20 days at Kegalle and ten days at Avisawella each month. This, he thought, would meet the requirements of the District.

It was agreed that the Hon. Secretary should write to the G.A., Sabaragamuwa, on the subject and enclose a duplicate of Mr. Smeaton's letter.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

On the question of District Telephones the Hon. SECRETARY said that since the last meeting the necessary information in regard to the inauguration of a system of District Telephones had been obtained from a large number of estates in the District. This information had been forwarded to Messrs. C. Hutson & Co. last week. Messrs. Hutson & Co. had sent up their representative that day but the speaker did not think there was anything further they could do in the matter until they had received from Messrs. Hutson & Co. an estimate for the construction of the telephone system. The whole of the figures had been given to Messrs. Hutson & Co., and, while the whole of the estates in the District would probably not join, the large majority of them would. The figures would, therefore, be approximate only. At the next meeting the Association would probably hear more about the matter, and Messrs. Hutson & Co. would have the estimates and plans for them to consider. At present he did not consider there was anything more they could do than had been done already. The question arose as to whether each estate should pay the whole cost of the construction of their own line or whether the cost of the erection of the whole system should be pooled among the estates joining in. He supposed Messrs. Hutson & Co. would provide two sets of estimates.

Mr. HUTCHINSON said they ought to bear in mind the fact that they would have far more subscribers if the expense was divided equally than if each estate had to pay for its own line.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The resolution of the Kandy Planters' inviting the opinion of District Planters' Association on the Government's regulations dealing with the shot-hole borer was read, and the Association agreed to support the regulations.

PLANT PESTS BOARD.

The Hon. SECRETARY said the Government Agent wrote in January and requested an early reply to his letter of November 6th last. The Secretary said he ascertained that the letter had to do with the appointment of a member on the Plant Pest Board. He replied that he would bring the matter before the Association at their next meeting. A few days ago he received an urgent wire from the A.G.A. to the effect that the Plant Pest Board matter was very urgent. There was no time to consult the Committee and consequently he laid the matter before the Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN said that in view of the urgency of the matter he took the liberty of wiring to the Government Agent to the effect that Mr. W. de La Hoyde would act

upon the Board. He trusted the Association would ratify his action.

The meeting ratified the appointment of Mr. W. de La Hoyde.

RULES AND CONSTITUTION.

The HON. SECRETARY explained that he had placed the matter of rules and regulations upon the agenda because new members had applied for new rules, etc., and the old stock of rules had run out. It was advisable, he thought, to appoint two or three members to form a sub-Committee to go through the rules to ascertain whether any alterations were necessary, as it was some time since the last batch of rules were printed. If the sub-Committee considered no alterations were necessary a fresh batch of rules could be printed straightaway, but if they considered alterations were necessary these could be discussed at the next meeting.

A sub-Committee of three (Mr. R. I. Mackenzie, the Chairman and the Hon. Secretary) was appointed for the purpose.

The Labour Federation.

SUGGESTED ALTERATION OF RULES.

Mr. HUTCHINSON brought forward the following proposals:—"That all monies expended by the estate in searching for and prosecuting bolters be added to their registered debts." "That none but federated estates shall use the Coast Agency and that this agency be incorporated into the Federation." "That no federated estates shall be allowed to take on coolies from non-federated estates."

The CHAIRMAN said that a sub-Committee of three gentlemen, with power to add to their number, was appointed to receive suggestions from any planter, whether attached to federated or non-federated estates. They were open to receive suggestions up to a certain date. These suggestions had been gone into by the Committee of the P.L.F., and he thought it was now rather late to bring forward further suggestions. Moreover, the Association as an Association, had never been asked to send forward suggestions, the suggestions which it was proposed to entertain were suggestions from individual planters and all had had an opportunity of sending forward their views in the form of suggestions.

THE DISCUSSION.

Mr. HUTCHINSON: Might I remind you of the fact that at the last meeting I was ruled out of order and that it was agreed that the matter should be brought up at the next meeting.

The HON. SECRETARY: The minutes are here and what actually occurred was this: a resolution was put to the meeting as to whether the matter should be discussed or not and it was agreed that it should not be discussed. I later received a letter from Mr. Hutchinson asking that the matter should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, and I replied by asking him to put his suggestion into writing. This Mr. Hutchinson did.

Mr. DUNCAN said he thought the meeting was entitled to hear the resolution.

The resolution was then read.

The HON. SECRETARY said he presumed Mr. Hutchinson had sent forward his suggestions to the P.L.F. and that they had been duly considered.

Mr. HUTCHINSON was understood to agree that he had sent forward his suggestions, but added that they would come with much greater force if sent as suggestions from such a body as the K.V.P.A. "For the last two or three years," he continued, "there has been a sacred halo around any question connected with labour brought before the Association. Goodness only knows why!" Labour was one of the most important matters which vitally concerned the planting industry, and he could not understand why it should not be discussed at their meetings. If there was nothing to hide why could they not thrash the whole matter out openly? "I cannot understand this holy terror of discussing the whole question. Why do we want to cover it all up?"

The HON. SECRETARY thought the discussion of P.L.F. matters by representatives of federated estates was a very different thing from the sending forward to Kandy of resolutions for the alteration of P.L.F. rules by an Association consisting of a body of planters comprising representative of both federated and non-federated estates. If Mr. Hutchinson wished to forward suggestions for alterations of rules of the P. L. F. from all the representatives of federated estates in the K.V. he might call a meeting after the Association meeting. That would be a very excellent thing.

Mr. HUTCHINSON said he did not see why, because the might happen to be a few odd representatives of non-federated estates present, his lips should be therefore sealed on so important a subject.

AN AMENDMENT CARRIED.

Mr. SMITH proposed as an amendment that the matter should not be discussed at this meeting.

This amendment was put to the meeting and carried by 11 votes to 4.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the business.

MASKELIYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

There was a good attendance at the annual general meeting of the Maskeliya Planters' Association which was held at the Maskeliya Club on Wednesday, 25th February. The Chairman (Mr. Hew Kennedy) presided, and there were also in attendance: Messrs. J. Creasy Hood, J. P. Chapman, P. C. Adams, Philip H. Unwin, J. B. Cotton, D. M. Gordon, J. S. Stevenson, C. W. Finelli, C. Goodie, C. S. Scott, E. Allrey, F. O. Sprinks, F. Charnaud, C. E. Wedd, A. P. Jukes, D. Finch Noyes, W. H. Brymer, H. G. Eccles (Chairman, Dikoya P.A.), C. B. Prettejohn, J. J. Reiss, S. Johnston, A. R. Aitken, F. Lang, J. Mellers, R. B. Harvey and A. de L. Bainbrigge.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

In moving the adoption of the annual report the CHAIRMAN (Mr. Hew Kennedy) said he had a few words to say with reference to the most important matters which

arked last year. They would notice that under the head-
; of crops the report showed an increase of 10 lbs. per
re over the whole district as compared with the pre-
ous year; this increase was not a large one, but it had
en a steady increase for the last four years and this, he
ught, was a move in the right direction. The year had
en rather an eventful one in that there had been two
ge and almost record floods, but he was glad to say, Mas-
liya had suffered less than most districts. They would
e from the report that the average rainfall over
e whole district for the year was 143½ inches as against
4 inches the previous year. This might seem, at first,
very excessive rainfall for Maskeliya, but he would like to
int out the marked contrast between the rainfall in Upper
d Lower Maskeliya. In Upper Maskeliya, he supposed,
st year's rainfall did not exceed 140 inches, while in Lower
askeliya it was probably 170 to 180 inches.

PRICES

d been maintained throughout the year and tea in the
askeliya District seemed to be in quite a sound position
pplause.) The next matter to which he wished to refer
is the matter of the hospital. Turning to the visitors'
port they would see that a suggestion was made by the
sitors that the addition of a Maternity Ward would be a
eat convenience and improvement. This was a matter
hich had been brought up before, and he thought it was
r the members of the Association to press for the
stablishment of such a ward. Another matter to which the
spital visitors referred was the late arrival of drugs and
at also should be commented upon in a letter to the right
arter.

As they were no doubt all aware the new

INDO-CEYLON CONNECTION

as formally opened the previous day (Tuesday), and he
as desirous of taking that opportunity—not only as Chair-
an of the Maskeliya Association, but also as Chairman of
e Planters' Association of Ceylon—of expressing the
anks of the Planting Community to the Ceylon Govern-
ent for bringing about the great facilities for recruiting
bour from India that the new service will undoubtedly
fer. The sea journey by the old route takes about eighteen
ours, the new route by sea took under two hours. More-
ver there were both at Talaimannar and at Danushkodi
o piers, one on either side of the reef, so that the ferry
oats would always be able to steam to and fro on the
heltered side. This, as they would at once allow, was a
reat inducement to immigrant coolies who, as is well
nown, were not at all fond of a rough sea. There were
any other advantages to travellers over the new route,
ut as His Excellency (Sir Robert Chalmers) had enumer-
ted them in his most masterly speech at Danushkodi
he previous day the speaker thought he would be at-
tempting to paint the lily if he tried to add to them. The
Ceylon Government and the South Indian Railway Com-
pany had each sunk a lot of money in constructing the
ndo-Ceylon connection, and it only remained for the Plant-
ng Community to fill the trains with coolies from India.

(Applause.) By the new route 16½ hours sea journey was
saved to the immigrant coolie and the speaker hoped and
was sure that the increase of immigrants would be a very
appreciable one. In conclusion he thanked Government
for the honour they had done the Planting Community by
giving their representatives the opportunity of being present
at the opening ceremony the previous day.

There was one matter which recently had caused them
a great deal of anxiety and that was the

PLAGUE.

The previous day and nine days prior to that the speaker
had interviews with Sir Allan Perry, who assured him that
every care was being taken in Colombo. Two suggestions
were made to him and one was that anyone having a rice
store should certainly place the rice in the sun for two hours
daily as an extra precaution. It was up to the Planting
Community to see that, if they had the misfortune to have an
outbreak in their district, every care was taken to prevent
its spreading, and he felt sure there was not a planter in
Ceylon who would not co-operate one with the other for the
common good. (Applause.) Personally he thought that,
with the arrival of the hot weather, no great danger from
plague was to be anticipated.

Under the heading of

TRANSPORT,

they would notice that their Committee regretted that no
great improvement had been made, and that there had been
no advance towards mechanical transport. Personally he
maintained that it was quite impossible to ask any one firm
resident in the Maskeliya District to purchase a sufficient
number of lorries to cope with all the transport of
the district, and he suggested that estates should
combine together and buy a lorry and thus relieve the con-
gestion at Hatton, which was becoming very serious.
Government had promised to accelerate the

IMPROVEMENT OF THE ROADS

in the district as far as possible with the labour at their
command, but, unfortunately they had not been able to
accelerate that improvement as quickly as the planters
would have liked. He appealed to the members of the Associa-
tion to see to it that there was no delay in pushing forward the
work of improving the road so as to prepare the way for the
removal from the roads of the districts of the antiquated bul-
lock carts and the substitution of motor lorries (Applause).

THANKS.

It only remained for him to thank the Hon. Secretary
(Mr. C. B. Prettejohn) for the good work he had done during
the year. Without Mr. Prettejohn, the speaker's work as
Chairman would have been doubled, for Mr. Prette-
john had removed from his shoulders every possible care
of office. They could not have wished for a better Secre-
tary (Applause). The speaker also thanked the members
of the General Committee who, during the three years he
had been their Chairman, had been so helpful and so useful
to him. The Committee had assisted him on many oc-
casions when he had not seen his way clear. He also wished

to thank all the members of the Association for their regular and good attendance at the general meetings for which Maskeliya had been famed. Last year the average attendance was 25 members out of a total of 39.

THE ACCOUNTS.

Alluding to the accounts, which had been audited by Mr. L. A. Wright, Mr. Hew Kennedy said the balance to the credit of the Association at the end of 1913 was Rs. 126.54 as compared with Rs. 143.93 at the end of 1912. At the first glance it looked as if the Association were going down hill, but this was not really so as a matter of Rs. 80 had been spent by the Association on repairs to Warleigh Bridge and that was quite an extra expenditure and not an annual one. They would remember that at the last meeting or meeting before a letter was received from the Dickoya Planters' Association pointing out that Government had voted a sum for the repair of the bridge and that Maskeliya's share towards that expenditure was Rs. 146. It was decided to send in a cheque at once and to circularise the District and obtain what subscriptions they could. The Association was still short of Rs. 80 and if any one still desired to give a little towards the repair of the bridge and save the Association money all the better.

The reports and accounts were then adopted.

42ND ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee beg to submit their 42nd annual report.

OBITUARY.—Your Committee wish to place on record of loss it has sustained by the death of Mr. C. P. Hayes, Mr. John Pole, and Mr. H. J. Day, respected members of this Association.

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 50 estates in the district all of which are members of this Association.

MEETINGS.—During the year three general and three Committee Meetings have been held. The average attendance has been 25 at general and 8 at Committee Meetings.

ACREAGE AND CROPS.—Acreage in tea 18,811 acres, clearings opened during 1913, 255 acres, total 19,055 acres.

CROPS.—The crop for the past year was 8,855,543 lbs. being an average of 470 lbs. per acre calculated on the acreage in tea as against 460 lbs. for the previous season, 1912. The estimated crop for 1914 is 8,995,000 lbs.

WEATHER.—The average rainfall for the year was 143.56 as against 134.15 for season 1912. Very heavy rains were experienced in October and again in December which did considerable damage to the lower-lying estates in the district, but, generally speaking, the rainfall has been well distributed and favourable to crops.

PRICES continued satisfactory and have been well maintained throughout the year.

PESTS.—During the past year have not been aggressive, but your Committee would urge all Superintendents to keep the strictest supervision and take all precautions to prevent the spread of those present. They much regret that owing to the absence on short leave of the district representative of Pest Board they are unable to amalgamate his general report under this heading.

LABOUR may be said generally sufficient for requirements. Your Committee have pleasure in recording the inauguration of the Planters' Labour Federation during the past year and would urge all estates in the district who have not already joined to do so and unitedly give their support to the spirit of its rules.

COAST AGENCY.—Your Committee would again urge members to spare no efforts to recruit coolies from coast. They recommend the strong support of the depot lately opened in Colombo to safeguard the interests of coolies returning to coast, the advantages

such coolies of being met at the station by peons, taken to the depot, fed, tickets taken for them to destination, and seen on board being most apparent.

HOSPITAL.—Appended is the report of the hospital visitors on the district hospital from which it appears the addition of a maternity ward calls for attention. Patients admitted for 1914, 540; diarrhoea, dysentery and pneumonia were the most prevalent cases, also about 100 cases of ankylostomiasis which were for the most part successfully treated. The hospital is kept in a tidy and sanitary condition, and the grounds are most improved. The turning place in front of the hospital for vehicles now finished is a distinct convenience.

DRUGS.—The half-yearly supply had not arrived at the time of my last visit, the 11th instant, and many were short. This appears to be rather late as drugs were ordered in December.

MATERNITY WARD.—An addition of such ward would be a great improvement and convenience even if only one or two beds were supplied as the female ward is for the most part full and from time to time overcrowded, and I understand that any maternity cases admitted to the hospital are treated in this ward which is not as it should be.

A. P. JUCKES.

ROADS.—Your Committee regret to report the general bad condition of the roads in the district and would again advocate the entire surface being metalled and greater attention being paid to rolling of same.

TRANSPORT.—It is to be regretted that no little advance has been made under this most important heading during the past year, and your Committee would urge that substantial support be accorded to any scheme which might tend to further the urgent need for mechanical transport.

GRANTS FOR INTER-DISTRICT ROADS.—The following grants have been made for 1913:—Stockholm-Crudon, Rs. 100; Nyanza-Claughton, Rs. 50; Upcot-Annandale, Rs. 25; Upcot-Meeriacotta, Rs. 20; Dickoya-Maha Oya, Rs. 50; Keniva Vell, Rs. 25; Morakelle-Omanina, Rs. 15.—Total Rs. 315.

TELEPHONES.—District lines have given satisfaction during the year and trunk connections have been effected with Hatten and Bogawantalawa.

DONATIONS.—Your Committee recommend a donation of Rs. 20 being made to the Ceylon Nursing Association and Rs. 10 to the S.P.C.A.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—Your Committee would ask all members without exception to subscribe to this most deserving institution.

VOLUNTEERING has been well supported during the year and the efficiency of C.M.R. and C.P.R.C. well maintained. Appended is the Report of the C.P.R.C.—For the year 1913 the Maskeliya detachment of the C.P.R.C. continued in a satisfactory condition and considerable more keenness both in drills and shooting has been done. All members have got through their shooting course satisfactorily and are efficient, the numbers of drills attended by members being well in excess of the regulation number required. During the year 4 men have been transferred to other districts. Recruits number 4 bringing the total up to 10 members. Camp and inspections have been well supported by those who had time to get away. Taking our small number into consideration and the opportunities of the Company Manœuvring, the general knowledge of intelligence shown seems to be well up to the average of any volunteer force. In the latter half of the year signalling course of instruction was started. Five of our members have taken the up, one of whom, Corporal Stevenson, gained a second class certificate in December. Sergeant Harvey was offered and accepted a commission of 2nd Lieutenant in the C.P.R.C. and is now in charge of Maskeliya, Dickoya and Bogawantalawa detachments. Lance Corporal Stevenson was also promoted to the rank of Corporal. A new armoury was built on Gouravilla at the beginning of the year the old one proving unsuitable. The range has had usual attention and is in good order throughout.

GENERAL.—Your thanks are due to the Honorary Hospitalitors for the services during the past year and also to the Honorary Secretary of the District Telephones, also to the *Times of Ceylon* for sending their representative to report meetings, and the "Ceylon Observer" and "Independent" for a free copy of their paper throughout the year.

MR. HEW KENNEDY THANKED.

Mr. Hew Kennedy then vacated the chair and Mr. W. H. Wright was chosen to preside temporarily while the business of selecting a new Chairman was underway. Mr. Wright thanked the meeting for having elected him to the chair temporarily, and said his first duty was the very pleasant one of asking all present to join with him in a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hew Kennedy for the hard work he had done for them during the three years he had been their chairman. He thought he was right in saying they would like to go a long way in the history of the Association to add a Chairman who had held that office for three consecutive years (Applause.) He also desired to take that opportunity of congratulating Mr. Hew Kennedy upon the honour which had been done him by the Planters of Ceylon in electing him as the Chairman of the Central Association for the present year. (Loud Applause.) He also asked them to pass a vote of thanks to Mr. Prettejohn their retiring Honorary Secretary. (Applause.)

Both votes of thanks were carried.

MR. C. B. PRETTEJOHN ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

The rest of the business was the election of Chairman, and Mr. Wright submitted the name of Mr. C. B. Prettejohn. Mr. A. P. JUCKES seconded, and the election was ratified by the meeting with loud applause.

The newly-elected Chairman was again loudly applauded upon taking his place at the top of the table for the first time. Mr. PRETTEJOHN thanked the Association for the honour they had done him and added that he would spare no pains to further the interests of the Association. In this he confidently looked to the members for support. (Applause.)

MR. C. GOOLDEN ELECTED HON. SECRETARY.

On the motion of Mr. C. E. WEDD, seconded by Mr. J. P. CHAPMAN, MR. C. GOOLDEN was unanimously elected Honorary Secretary. Mr. GOOLDEN replied that he would be very pleased to undertake the duties and perform them to the best of his abilities.

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

There being three vacancies on the General Committee the following gentlemen were chosen:—Messrs. Hew Kennedy, W. H. Brymer and F. J. Reiss. The full Committee now consists of Messrs. R. Maclure, P. H. Unwin, Finch Noyes, A. P. Juckes, L. A. Wright, R. B. Harvey, J. P. Chapman, C. Hood, C. E. Wedd, G. Johnson, J. B. Cotton, Johnston, Hew Kennedy, W. H. Brymer and F. J. Reiss.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. A. P. Juckes and Finch Noyes.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. A. P. Juckes and C. E. Wedd.

PLANT PEST BOARD REPRESENTATIVE.—Mr. R. Maclure.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Finch Noyes, J. P. Chapman, L. A. Wright, A. P. Juckes, and C. E. Wedd.
PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND REPRESENTATIVE.—Mr. A. P. Juckes.

CEYLON NURSING ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE.—Mr. W. H. Brymer.

HON. AUDITOR.—Mr. C. E. Wedd.

Congestion at Hatton.

IMPORTANT LETTER FROM MR. G. P. GREENE.

The following letter from the General Manager, C.G.R., was then read:—

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office,
Colombo, February 12th, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Maskeliya Planters' Association.

SIR,

With reference to the remarks in the annual report of the Dickoya Planters' Association (published in the *Times of Ceylon* of February 7th), with regard to the Hatton Railway Station and the congestion of goods traffic there, I have the honour to state that I inspected Hatton Station on the 6th instant, and found the goods shed and yard in a state of extreme congestion, but I wish to make it clear to the members of your Association that this state of congestion is not due to lack of labour for the handling of the traffic, but solely because the forwarding agencies are absolutely unable to cope with the enormous volume of traffic that has been rushed up to Hatton by consignees.

2. A large proportion of the traffic now awaiting delivery at Hatton Station is manure which not only blocks the manure shed, the carting area at each end of the shed, and the eaves of the goods shed, but also the interior of the shed itself. In other words, what has happened is exactly what was taken exception to by the members of the Railway Traffic Commission (on which the planting community was represented by Messrs. J. B. Coles and T. Hyatt, both concurring), namely, that consignees have been rushing in their orders for manure all together at the beginning of the year, each independent of the other, with the result that Hatton goods shed and yard is full up with manure which consignees are absolutely unable to handle expeditiously. As an example, one single estate has, I am informed, ordered no less than fifty tons of manure on one order.

3. I enclose for your information an extract from the report of the Railway Traffic Commission above referred to, which bears on this important subject (i.e., pars. 44 and 45), and would suggest that the present state of congestion in Hatton shed and yard might have been avoided, had some concerted action been taken on the part of your Association.

4. I wish to make it clear again that the block is in no way due to the Railway, but to consignees who have ordered supplies in excess of the road transport facilities at Hatton, and who thereby have not only caused grave inconvenience to themselves, but also to their neighbours whose traffic is naturally also delayed by the congestion.

5. It is no part of the duty of the Railway to act as a storage depot for consignees under such circumstances, and it should be noted (vide clause 21 of the Railway Goods Regulations) that the responsibility of Government for goods terminates when twenty-four hours have expired after arrival at the station to which goods are consigned. We could not possibly afford to hang up our waggons at Hatton for days and days under load with manure, so we have had to unload it and put it as far as possible under shelter, but a good deal is out in the open, and I cannot be responsible for any damage which may occur.

6. I trust that this important matter may be jointly considered by the Dickoya and Maskeliya Planters' Associations with a view to preventing such congestion at Hatton in the future. The traffic should either be more evenly distributed, as suggested by the Traffic Commission, or the question of better road transport should be taken in hand at once.

7. In the meantime, with a view to relieving the present congestion, I have been compelled to give instructions that consignments for consignees at Hatton who already have goods lying to their address at Hatton, are to be declined, until the previous lots have been removed and the congestion removed.

8. I enclosed two statements showing (a) some cases where goods were delayed a long time, and (b) other cases where goods were lying on hand at Hatton waiting delivery on February 3rd.—

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. P. GREENE.

(Paragraphs 44 and 45 referred to.)

44. In this connection Your Excellency's Commissioners desire to record the opinion that it is incumbent upon the planting community, which makes use of the Railway for the transport of supplies which, like manure, are only required at certain seasons of the year, or which, like rice, are in constant use, and the amount of which can easily be foreseen and calculated, so to arrange their orders as to avoid inconveniencing unnecessarily themselves and their neighbours by throwing on to the Railway, at a given period, a bulk of traffic with which, in ordinary circumstances, it may be found impossible to deal satisfactorily. Your Excellency's Commission consider that the Railway should be so equipped as to be able to cope sufficiently with the annual traffic any and every district which it serves. It cannot, however, be expected to deal successfully in short intermittent spaces of time with a volume of traffic that, given a certain amount of system and arrangement, might with equal ease be distributed over a longer period. So to equip the Railway as to enable it to perform so exceptional a feat would entail providing it with rolling stock far in excess of its requirements, much of which would stand idle for a large part of the year. It is perhaps unnecessary to point out that a railway cannot be conducted on sound business lines or economical principles in any such circumstances. Your Excellency's Commissioners fully recognise that there will always be periods of special stress during which the railway will have to work at exceptionally high pressure; but we contend that these should not be unnecessarily or artificially caused, and that in the interests of all concerned every reasonable precaution that systematic arrangement and foresight can devise should be taken to ensure the maintenance throughout the year of as regular a flow of up traffic from Colombo as possible.

45. Your Excellency's Commissioners commend this very important point to the Chamber of Commerce, the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, to the Low Country Products Association, and to every local Planters' Association in the Island. We are convinced that, given the co-operation of these bodies, arrangements can be, without difficulty, made which will go far to obviate the periodical congestion which in the past has caused so much inconvenience alike to the Railway and to consignees.

(Statements referred to.)

Inventory of goods at Hatton on hand and undelivered on February 3rd, 1914:—

Particulars of consignment	Station from.	Date commenced unloading.
Lot ceiling boards	... Colombo	17-1-14
81 bags of manure	... Hunupitiya	24-1-14
36 bundles tea shocks	... Colombo	13-1-14
20 cases tea lead	... Colombo	21-1-14
170 bags manure	... Hunupitiya	4-1-14
Lot bags coal	... Colombo	17-1-14

Particulars of consignment.	Station from.	Date commenced unloading.
30 bundles ceiling boards	... Colombo	18-1-14
48 packages tea shocks	... Colombo	14-1-14
Lot bags manure	... Kelaniya	15-1-14
120 bundles tea shocks	... Colombo	14-1-14
264 bundles tea shocks	... Colombo	14-1-14
98 bags manure	... Colombo	17-1-14

INVENTORY OF GOODS DELAYED AT HATTON BEFORE DELIVERY			
Description of Goods.	Date of Arrival.	Date of Removal.	
320 bags manure	... 3-1-14	15-1-14	
346 do do	... 7-1-14	17-1-14	
62 do do	... 26-12-13	20-1-14	
90 do do	... 5-1-14	14-1-14	
100 do do	... 10-1-14	28-1-14	
46 do do	... 9-1-14	28-1-14	
100 pkgs., rails, &c.,	... 7-1-14	29-1-14	
250 bags manure	... 16-1-14	29-1-14	
30 packages chests	... 17-1-14	28-1-14	
180 bags manure	... 26-1-14	4-2-14	
56 bags manure	... 23-1-14	5-2-14	
66 pkgs. Venestas, &c....	24-1-14	6-2-14	

HATTON STATION ACCOMMODATION.

In accordance with the notice of motion given by Mr D. Finch Noyes moved:—"That this Association ask Government to provide sufficient accommodation for goods at the Hatton Station, and would point out the fairness of charging demurrage on manure and other goods which are left lying in the station yard subject to deterioration from sun and rain."

Mr. Finch Noyes said the letter they had just heard read from the General Manager, C.G.R., was something absolutely new. The extracts from the report of the Railway Traffic Commissioners were particularly interesting and he thought many people had not yet had the opportunity of studying the full report of that Commission. While he could quite see the Government point of view he still maintained that Government was shirking its responsibilities, for while the Railway were accepting goods from Colombo for Hatton they did not provide accommodation for those goods at Hatton. He believed Hatton Station was erected in 1893 when the traffic was something like quarter what it is to-day and when it was not for a moment anticipated that Hatton would become so important a centre for distribution as it was now. The Station was built to cope with what the authorities thought might be the increase in the freights, but the accommodation was now totally inadequate to cope with the goods traffic. He had known the Station since 1898 and he thought he was right in saying that the only building put up since then was a little shelter in front of Brown's which held a few cement barrels and things like that. It was to charge for demurrage that they objected. The speaker admitted that transport facilities were not what they ought to be, but Government having accepted delivery of goods ought to provide a reasonable space to store them under shelter, and not leave them exposed to sun and rain. One or two big stations in Ceylon had a tariff allowing a period of storage at the Station correspondingly long with the distance which the goods had to be carted. Kandy and Colombo had tariffs of this description, and in 1912, he believed, an Ordinance

was passed extending the privilege to Talawakelle. The Talawakelle tariff provided that goods to be conveyed a distance of from two to ten miles had to be removed from the station on the second day, from ten to fifteen miles on the third day, from fifteen to twenty miles on the fourth day, and over twenty miles on the fifth day. At Hatton the rule was that all goods had to be removed within twenty-four hours. If Talawakelle enjoyed this concession he thought they ought to press for it at Hatton. He thought the idea put forward by Mr. G. P. Greene in his letter that goods would not be accepted at Colombo or elsewhere for Hatton unless the consignee had a clear bill at Hatton was a very good one if it could be worked. With regard to the question of improvements at Hatton the speaker admitted there was very little room unless the Government opened up new ground and he suggested that the Association should ask Government to provide a special

MANURE SIDING.

At quite an easy estimate 10,000 tons of manure a year was dealt with at Hatton and Government were getting in close on a lakh or rupees each year for freight on these 10,000 tons. There was certainly an incoming rush of manure at Hatton at this time of the year, but his contention was that the stores were not capable of dealing with the average amount of manure arriving. The erection of a siding for manure and manure alone would prove, in his opinion, a satisfactory way out of the difficulty. Hatton Station dealt with from 3,000 to 5,000 tons of goods a month, and it was ridiculous to suggest that the existing sheds were capable of adequately dealing with so considerable a volume of goods traffic. They all recognised that Mr. G. P. Greene (the General Manager) had been very considerate and had done a good deal for them, but, at the same time, they realised that Mr. Greene's hands were tied to a very large extent on account of expenditure. He proposed that they should ask the Planters' Association of Ceylon to send forward a request to Government asking for increased goods shed accommodation at Hatton. He added a rider to his resolution, which now read as follows:—

"That this Association ask Government to provide sufficient accommodation for goods at the Hatton Station and would point out the unfairness of charging demurrage on manure and other goods which are left lying in the station yard subject to deterioration from sun and rain. This Association also asks Government for the same privileges with regard to time allowed for removing manure and other goods from Hatton station as is at present allowed, in respect of goods removed from Talawakelle Station."

MR. WRIGHT SECONDS.

Mr. L. A. WRIGHT seconded and emphasised the necessity for further goods shed accommodation at Hatton. The

Mr. WEDD thought the General Manager's letter and Mr. Finch Noyes resolution should be considered quite independent accommodation was quite inadequate.

pendently. With regard to the proposal not to accept consignments of goods for Hatton unless the consignee had a clear bill at Hatton the speaker said it was important to consider this very carefully. What would happen in the case of goods consigned to a cart contractor on behalf of an estate? It would be very unjust if because that cart contractor had some goods lying at the station, the Railway authorities were to refuse to take rice or manure through the carter for the estate.

A member expressed the opinion that if goods were addressed to the Manager of an estate c/o the carters the difficulty would be avoided.

Mr. FINCH NOYES pointed out that his resolution was not at all on the same lines as the General Manager's letter. He contended that Hatton Station was built to cope for only about half the goods traffic with which it dealt at present, and that the time had arrived when better accommodation should be provided. If the Government gave them a manure siding the pressure would be tremendously relieved.

MR. FINCH NOYES' RESOLUTION CARRIED.

Mr. FINCH NOYES' resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

On the suggestion of the Chairman a Sub-Committee was appointed to go thoroughly into Mr. Greene's letter and to draft a reply and also to send a further letter to the Parent Association for their support. The following gentlemen were chosen to act upon this Committee:—Messrs. L. A. Wright, Finch Noyes, the Chairman and the Hon Secretary.

MASKELIYA CORONER.

A letter was read from the District Judge, Hatton (Mr. G. Furse Roberts) enclosing copy of a letter sent him by Mr. R. B. Harvey, and requesting the Association to recommend a gentleman for the acting appointment of inquirer for the district of Maskeliya during Mr. Harvey's absence from the Island. In his letter Mr. Harvey explained that he was leaving for England early in March for eight months' holiday and wished to resign his appointment as Coroner temporarily as from February 10th till November 10th, 1914.

The meeting recommended Mr. W. H. Brymer for the temporary post.

THE GOVERNMENT VETERINARY STAFF.

A formal acknowledgment from the Colonial Secretary's Office of the receipt of the Association's letter regarding the necessity for an increase of the veterinary staff was notified.

CROWN LANDS AND RESERVATIONS.

The meeting agreed to support the following resolution submitted by the Badulla Planters' Association:—
 "That the reservations for paths, minor roads, and streams, now being put on Crown Land advertised for sale, are in a number of cases unwarrantable and vexatious; and that Government be requested to empower the Government Agents to lease such reservations as they may consider unnecessary to the purchaser, without reserve."

FREIGHT ON PLUCKING BASKETS.

The following letter from the General Manager, C.G.R., was read:—

Ceylon Government Railway,
 General Manager's Office,
 Colombo, February 6th, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
 Maskeliya Planters' Association.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose herewith for your information copy of a revision of clause 42 of the Railway Goods Regulations which deals with the question of freight charges for packages of a light or frail nature.

2. I have received complaints from the Planting Community that the then existing rule whereby small consignments of plucking baskets were subjected to the full wagon load charge of 12½ cents per mile below Nawalapitiya and 25 cents per mile above Nawalapitiya was unreasonable and after consideration and consultation with certain planters affected, I got the enclosed revised rule passed by Government, the alteration being that in the case of consignments weighing less than 3 cwts. only half wagon rates should be charged, and this, I think, is a very reasonable concession.

It should be borne in mind that the average weight of these baskets that can be got into a wagon to carry 12 tons is about 6 cwts. which obviously is a very unprofitable load.

I am, Sir,
 Your Obedient Servant,
 G. P. GREENE,
 General Manager.

The CHAIRMAN: I think this concession is a very satisfactory one, and I suggest that a letter of thanks be written to Mr. G. P. Greene.

The meeting agreed and the Secretary was asked to address a letter of thanks to the General Manager.

THE WARLEIGH BRIDGE.

Under the heading of roads Mr. L. A. Wright brought forward a motion that Government be asked to take over the Warleigh Bridge. The bridge was badly bent and likely to go at the next flood and required extensive repairs. If the bridge went pilgrims to Adam's Peak would have to make a big detour.

MR. FINCH NOYES thought they ought to ask Government to put the bridge into a state of repair. It was true the Association had written to the District Road Committee, but why have to deal with the D.R.C. in the matter at all? The D.R.C. had only certain funds to deal with, and it would be very hard for them to vote any sum of money. All they would was to get the D.R.C. to press the matter with Government.

The following resolution was ultimately carried:—
 "That this Association do press upon Government the urgent necessity of putting Warleigh Bridge in a state of good repair. They would point out that the bridge is mainly used by pilgrims to and from Adam's Peak."

MR. FINCH NOYES thought the Senior Sinhalese Member in Council might also be approached in the matter.

The following applications for road grants were passed:—

Brownlow-Taft	...	...	Rs. 10
Stockholm-Crudon	...	...	" 50
Luckham-Donnybrook	...	...	" 90
Meeriatotta-Balangoda	...	...	" 50
Upcot-Meeriacotta	...	...	" 50
Upcot-Annandale	...	...	" 25
Nyanza-Claverton	...	...	" 40

Total ... Rs. 315

ODAPUSSELLAWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

A General Meeting of the above Association was held at the District Club on Saturday, the 7th March, at 3 p.m. The members present were: Messrs. C. J. Owen, (Chairman), W. A. Gordon, E. H. Mellor, A. C. Wilson, E. T. C. Farr, V. Ferne-Edwards, C. Boswell, J. M. Urquhart, V. Long, Gordon Windus, C. D. Mallaby, C. C. Wilson, and R. T. Thornton (Hon. Secretary.)

The notice convening the meeting having been read the minutes of the last General Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

The following correspondence was read:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
 Colombo, January 30th, 1914

THE SECRETARY,
 Planters' Association of Ceylon.
 SHOT-HOLE BORER.

SIR,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to forward any remarks the Planters' Association of Ceylon may desire to make the enclosed draft regulations which it is proposed to make under Section 3 of Ordinance No. 5 of 1901 with a view to preventing the spread of Shot-hole borer in the Island.

I am, Sir,
 Your Obedient Servant,
 D. W. ARNOTT,
 for Colonial Secretary

REGULATIONS REFERRED TO.

It shall be the duty of the person in charge of a tea estate or garden infested, or suspected to be infested, by *Xyleborus Formicatus* Eich. (Shot-hole borer of tea) to notify in writing to the Director of Agriculture the presence or supposed presence of insect on his or her tea estate or tea garden.

2. The Director of Agriculture, or person authorised by him, shall have the right of access at all reasonable times to all tea estates or tea gardens to determine whether *X. formicatus* Eich is present.

3. A register of infested estates and gardens shall be kept by the Department of Agriculture.

4. When the Director of Agriculture shall have determined that *Xyleborus Formicatus* Eich, is present on any tea estate or tea garden he shall, by a notification published in the Government Gazette, declare such estate or garden to be in quarantine.

5. No person, firm or corporation shall remove tea plants or parts of tea plants (other than leaf for manufacture or tea-seed) from an estate or garden which has been declared to be in quarantine, nor receive tea plants or parts of tea plants from such estate or garden, unless and until a permit has been issued therefor by the Director of Agriculture.

6. No person, firm or corporation shall ship by or offer for shipment to any common carrier, nor shall any person, firm, corporation or common-carrier transport or receive for transportation tea-plants or parts of tea plants (other than leaf and seed) unless the case, box, package, crate, bale or bundle thereof shall be plainly and correctly marked to show the nature of the contents, the estate or garden where the same was grown, the name and address of the shipper, owner, or person shipping or forwarding the same and the name and address of the consignee.

The CHAIRMAN then moved that this meeting is in favour of the contents of this letter.—Carried.

The A. G. A.'s letter re J.P. and U.P.M. was read:—

Nuwara Eliya Kacheheri.

March 2nd, 1914.

HON. SECRETARY,

Udapussellawa Planters' Association.

J. P. AND U. P. M.

I have the honour to inform you that Mr. A. C. Wilson of St. Andrews estate, has signified to me that he does not wish to resign his office of the Justice of Peace and Unofficial Police Magistrate, and to request you to report (1) whether an acting J.P. is required during his absence, and (2) if so, what name is recommended by the Planters' Association.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. W. SEYMOUR,

Assistant Government Agent.

THE HON. SECRETARY,

Udapussellawa P. A.,

Gordon, Udapussellawa.

It was decided not to elect a new J. P. and U. P. M. as there were sufficient at present in the district.

The following letter from the General Manager, C. G. R. was read:

Ceylon Government Railway,

General Manager's Office,

Colombo, February 6th, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose herewith for your information copy of a revision of clause 2 of the Railway Goods Regulations, which deals with the question of freight charges for packages of a light or frail nature. 2. I have received complaints from the Planting Community that the then existing rule whereby small consignments of plucking baskets were subjected to the full wagon load charge of 12½ cents per mile below Nawalapitiya and 25 cents above Nawalapitiya was unreasonable, and, after consideration and consultation with certain planters affected, I got the enclosed revised rule passed by Government, the alteration being that in the case of consignments weighing less than 3 cwts. only half of wagon rates should be charged, and this I think is a very reasonable concession.

It should be borne in mind that the average weight of these baskets that can be got into a wagon to carry 12 tons is about 6 cwts. which obviously is a very unprofitable load.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. P. GREENE,

General Manager.

Extracts from the Ceylon Government "Gazette" No. 6603 of January 23rd, 1914.

"THE CEYLON RAILWAYS ORDINANCE, 1902."

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Colombo, January 19th, 1914.

It is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor, in exercise of the power vested in him by section 5 of the above-mentioned Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to revoke clause 42 of the rules relating to the conveyance of goods traffic published by Notification dated October 11th, 1907, as amended by Notification dated October 4th, 1910, and to substitute therefor the following clause, with effect from February 1st, 1914.

By His Excellency's command,

R. E. STUBBS,

Colonial Secretary.

42. (a) *Plants, straw, cadjans, empties, and packages of a light or frail nature* (baskets mentioned in clauses (b) and (c) excepted) requiring special accommodation, i.e., goods of which less than 2 tons, (1½ ton on the Uda Pussellawa Section) occupy a whole wagon, will be liable to a minimum charge of 25 cents per wagon per mile, over the Main, Coast, and branch lines below Nawalapitiya and 50 cents per wagon per mile over the Main line and branches above Nawalapitiya, and if delivery is not taken within the time allowed free after arrival, demurrage will be charged.

(b) Tea plucking, tea leaf transport, rubber plant protector, and tea, cacao, and rubber supply baskets, in consignments of 3 cwt. and over and not exceeding the carrying capacity of a covered goods wagon, will be subject to a charge of 12½ cents per consignment per mile below Nawalapitiya and 25 cents above Nawalapitiya. Consignments of less than 3 cwt. will be charged for at half these rates.

(c) Earth, manure, and cacao washing baskets of conical shape which pack closely into one another will be charged for on actual weight at 3rd class rates.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we should thank the General Manager of the G. G. R. for this concession. A vote of thanks to the General Manager was passed.

BADULLA COURT.

Mr. EDWARDS, who was called upon to speak to his resolution, said he would like to point out that at present 5½ estates, representing some 2,000 acres, all used the Uda-pussellawa Police Court, so that criminal cases were taken to Nuwara Eliya, although those estates were in the jurisdiction of the Badulla Court. Much delay was caused by having to transfer the case from Nuwara Eliya to Badulla. Moreover, Badulla was removed from these few estates by a large tract of uncultivated land traversed by a single bad road across a large river, the bridge over which was destroyed in January, 1912, and had not been re-erected. He would therefore like to bring forward his resolution: "That this Association wishes to emphasise the necessity of the six estates at present under the jurisdiction of the Badulla Court being transferred to that of Nuwara Eliya Court, in view of the difficulties of transit."

Mr W. A. GORDON seconded.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Edward's resolution appears to me to be very reasonable, and I have every reason to believe that we shall receive a favourable reply. The judicial centre of Uda-pussellawa should be Nuwara Eliya. But I would propose an amendment to this resolution to the effect that: "These estates be added not only to the judicial, but also to the revenue district of Nuwara Eliya."

Mr. GORDON: I believe a change in the revenue districts is a very difficult affair as it entails a great deal of litigation with regard to title plans of small native holdings.

The CHAIRMAN: If that is so I would word the resolution: "That the estates in question be transferred to the judicial district of Nuwara Eliya, and the revenue district also if possible."

Mr. C. C. WILSON: I think we might ask the Nuwara Eliya P.A. to back us up in this.

The amended resolution was then put before the meeting and carried unanimously.

BADULLA P. A.'s RESOLUTION.

The following letter was read from the Badulla P. A.:

Spring Valley, Badulla,

6th February, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,

Uda-pussellawa Planters' Association.

DEAR SIR,

I am directed to forward you a copy of a resolution passed at a General Meeting of this Association, held on the 24th ultimo, and to solicit the strong support of your Association.

Yours faithfully,

WILFRED RETTIE,

Honorary Secretary.

Resolution.

"That the reservations for paths, minor roads and streams, now being put on Crown land advertised for sale, are in a number of cases unwarrantable and vexatious; and that Government be requested to empower the Government Agents to lease such reservations, as they may consider unnecessary, to the purchaser, without reserve."

The CHAIRMAN: I propose: "That the feeling of this meeting is in favour of the Badulla P.A.'s resolution:—Carried."

RULES OF DISTRICT P.A.

The CHAIRMAN: I have brought this forward because we have no rules and, therefore, have no fixed number for quorum or amount for subscription. I would propose Committee of two or three be elected to draw up rules and place them before the next general meeting. And while am on this subject I would propose that our subscription be raised from Rs. 17.50 to Rs. 20 per estate per annum; which will allow of our paying our annual expenses and having something over, which now-a-days is scarcely ever the case. I believe all other Associations have their subscriptions at Rs. 20.

A Committee consisting of the Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Mr. Urquhart was proposed and elected.

KANDY REPRESENTATIVES.

The CHAIRMAN: The rule 11 of the Planters' Association reads as follows:—"District Associations affiliated as aforesaid shall be entitled to nominate their Chairman and Secretary."

ary and 5 per centum of their Members to serve on the committee, but when the register of such Association shall be less than 30 an additional member shall be allowed." From which I take it we are entitled to two representatives in addition to the Chairman and Secretary. We should be represented as strongly as possible; and I would ask the meeting to elect another gentleman to serve besides Mr. Barr.

As no other gentleman was ready to come forward it was decided to leave the question until a later date.

PLAGUE.

The CHAIRMAN: The next thing on the agenda, gentlemen, is plague. After all we cannot do much but it is a matter which should be brought up. From what we know of Plague it appears to favour a cold rather than a hot climate, so that should it get a footing Up-country it would be very serious indeed. However conditions on estates are very different from those in a crowded town. We should all do what we can in the way of prevention, and this consists in disinfecting lines, waging war on rats, and exposing rice and rice bags to the sun. I would propose a district rate of 10 cents per rat to be offered by Superintendents of estates. I would also propose that the Hon. Secretary be instructed to write to Nuwara Eliya and Maturata P.A.'s asking them to give the same rates."—Carried.

Mr. A. C. WILSON: If the plague becomes worse I think it would be a good plan to put all estates on half rations of rice. The chetty from whom I get my rice has been affected by his Colombo agent having gone to the Plague Hospital. I do not mean that this should be done now, but if matters become worse.

Mr. C. C. WILSON: I understand there is a member of another Association who got his coolies parboiled Rangoon rice at 3.65 and his coolies much preferred it to sulaie.

Mr. GORDON: I remember in a similar circumstance in the Badulla District we issued rice every ten days instead of every week, so that men got 6/8 and women 5/8 month.

Mr. A. C. WILSON: I will put this resolution:—"That if the rice question becomes serious, the Chairman be asked to call a special meeting to discuss measures to be taken.

The CHAIRMAN seconded, and the resolution being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

Proceedings ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

R. T. THORNTON,

Hon. Secretary, U.P.A.

RAMBODA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of the Association was held at Ramboda Resthouse on the 25th March, at 9.30 a.m. Present: Messrs. N. C. Rolt (Chairman), W. De Lemos, H. Far-

ning, E. L. S. Agar, H. D. Bartlett, J. H. Marcel, C. J. Marzetti, P. L. Steuart and A. F. Howie (Hon. Secretary).

Mr. N. J. Wilson Blackett wrote regretting his inability to attend the meeting.

The notice calling the meeting was read and the minutes of the last meeting, held on the 14th January, were taken as read and confirmed.

THUMB PRINTS ON CERTIFICATES.

Proposed by the CHAIRMAN: That it be brought to the notice of the Parent Association that the description of the cooly on the Ragama certificate is not effective as a means of identification, and to suggest that thumb prints should be affixed. Carried unanimously.

MOTOR TRAFFIC AT GAMPOLA.

Proposed by Mr. W. de Lemos and seconded by Mr. C. J. MARZETTI: "That the road from Gampola bridge to La-bookelle be opened to motor traffic."

Mr. DE LEMOS in moving the resolution, pointed out that the chief objection to the use of motor lorries on the road was the Gampola bridge, which was said to be unsafe. He therefore suggested that goods might be transported across the bridge in carts, and then transferred to lorries, until such time as the bridge was made secure.

The motion was carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read draft of proposed regulations with regard to shot hole borer, which were approved by the meeting.

Read letter from the Chairman, District Road Committee, giving details of road grants for 1914.

Read letter from the District Engineers of Pussellawa and Nuwara Eliya, accepting honorary membership of the Association.

Read resolution from Badulla Association with regard to reservations on paths, minor roads and streams, which was unanimously supported.

Read letter from Kandy Cemeteries Committee.

Read letter from the Government Agent with reference to coolies employed on native gardens, and it was noted with satisfaction that Batchi Appu had been called upon to register his estate.

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

A. F. HOWIE,

Hon. Secretary.

BATTICALOA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**KALIDY FERRY.**

The Annual General Meeting was held on April 4th at the Resthouse. The members present were: Messrs. J. Cotton, C. J. Backhouse, J. Wells, A. Jemmett Browne, and G. W. B. Goodfellow, visitor.

Owing to the unfortunate illness of Mr. J. W. Cotton and his absence from the Island, Mr. Jemmett Browne was elected Chairman and Hon. Secretary for the coming year.

THE COMMITTEE.

Messrs. J. Cotton, C. J. Backhouse and J. Wells were elected.

ANNUAL REPORT.

MEMBERSHIP.—There are eleven subscribers.

CROPS.—There have been good crops, and prices for copra have been most satisfactory.

MOTOR MAIL SERVICE.—In July, Government started the Motor-Mail Service, which is a great improvement on the old bullock mail coach service. However, owing to changes in the timetable, mails often arrived very little in advance of the old system at places beyond Batticaloa, whilst the alteration of the up-mail having to stop at Bibile until the following morning was a great inconvenience to would be passengers. During the year Messrs. Collette & Co's, motor coaches were started, and Mr. Collette is to be congratulated on the regular running of his cars, and every support should be shown to him for his enterprise.

His Excellency the Acting Governor visited the district and carefully considered the wants of the province. In consequence, several licenses have been issued at the old rate of Rs. 50 to capture elephants. It must be hoped that more licenses to capture will be applied for.

The Pottuville-Muppane Road is receiving more attention.

Re the Kalidy Ferry, it must be hoped that something definite will be determined upon at no late date.

WILD ELEPHANTS have again caused considerable damage to coconut properties, and paddy and chena cultivation during the year south of Batticaloa.

Chenas.—Owing to the distress caused by the floods last year, very extensive chenas were given out this year to help the people. In certain pattus the acreage felled for chena greatly exceeded the acreage allotted by Government.

Thus in certain localities labour has been scarce and irregular.

In a few years, if this destruction of virgin jungle is permitted there will be little suitable chena land near villages for the future for villagers to cultivate in years of distress.

TELEGRAPH STATION AT AKKARAIPATTU.—It is regretted that Government cannot see their way to prolong the telegraph wire from Kalmunai to Akkaraipattu, especially considering that the Pottuville-Muppane Road will be shortly completed and the possibility of Arugam Bay becoming a port of call.

Mr. J. WELLS proposed: "That the Hon. the Colonial Secretary should be requested to inform this Association as to what plans are being determined by Government with reference to building a bridge across the Kalidy Ferry or placing a suitable ferry service on the lake.

"That this Association would humbly suggest that tenders should be called for running a motor ferry service for a term of years until the proposed bridge across the lake is completed."

Mr. J. COTTON seconded.—Carried.

THEFTS FROM COCONUT PROPERTIES.

Mr. J. WELLS proposed: "That the Parent Association and other Associations should be written to requesting them to support this Association in their request that Government should consider an Ordinance for thefts of coconuts, similar to the Ordinance for cocoa and rubber thefts, in localities near coconut estates."

Mr. C. J. BACKHOUSE seconded. Carried.

TELEGRAPH STATION AT AKKARAIPATTU.

Mr. A. JEMMETT BROWNE proposed: "That the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and the Post-master-General should be written to requesting them to re-consider the opening of a telegraph Station at Akkaraipattu and to place an estimate in this year's Supply Bill for the same. That the Pottuville-Muppane road will shortly be completed and also the possibility of Arugam Bay being opened as a port of call in a few years will necessitate a telegraph station at Pottuville."

Mr. J. COTTON seconded.—Carried.

BATTICALOA AND KIDDANKI JETTIES.

Mr. A. JEMMETT BROWNE proposed and Mr. J. COTTON seconded: "That the Director of Public Works should be requested to have the Batticaloa and Kiddanki Jetties covered for protection on of cargo."—Carried.

CHENAS.

Mr. A. JEMMETT BROWNE proposed and Mr. J. COTTON seconded: "That the Government Agent should be requested to inform this Association the acreage sanctioned last year to be felled for chena cultivation in Akkaraipattu, also the extent of chenas felled and planted in excess. Also to be informed whether these chenas have been surveyed to ascertain the correct acreages felled and planted. It is the opinion of this Association that a very much larger acreage has been planted than may have been reported to have been felled.

"That in consequence of this extensive chena cultivation there is a serious and irregular scarcity of labour, which must also affect Government works, as well as the planting community."

The resolutions were carried.

STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

On the proposal of Mr. J. COTTON, seconded by Mr. J. WELLS, it was resolved: "That the Government Agent be requested to order the Ceylon Steamship Company that a fixed date of change of Port from Batticaloa to Kalkudah or Kalkudah to Batticaloa should be adhered to.

"That in the event of a change being necessary at least 2 weeks' notice of such change should be given to shippers.

That the Government Agent's attention should be drawn to the rough handling of cargo at Kalkudah and to request him to complain about it. That the shippers have no redress if the cargo is broken, as the subsidised Steamship Company only take cargo at shippers' risk."

Mr. C. J. BACKHOUSE proposed a vote of thanks to the chair.

A. JEMMETT BROWNE,

Hon. Secretary

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

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			•	and as occasion requires.
.. Coromandel Ports & Calcutta	.	.	.	Fortnightly
				and as occasion requires.
.. Mauritius	.	.	.	Once a Month.
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The Planting Gazette

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

[Vol. II.]

JUNE, 1914.

[No. 4]

Editorial Notes

ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS has filled a large place in the thoughts of planters during the last few weeks, and there seems no doubt in any mind as to our duty. Fortunately, too, duty and profit both urge us in the same direction, for if we could eliminate anchylostomiasis from among our labour there would no longer be any labour problem, in all human probability. The methods to be employed in stamping out the disease are fairly generally known, and Mr. Rose's lecture in Kandy was remarkable more as the triumph of an enthusiastic personality than as revealing any very new points. There remains really only the question where the money is to be found. It should preferably be found by Government. That would of course mean taxation, but when taxation is levied by Government and not by a voluntary cess there is less chance of the mean and reluctant escaping their share of the joint responsibility. There is a very grave responsibility and it rests more on the planter than upon the Government. At least it appears to do so from the information at present available. For we are given to understand that Anchyllostomiasis does not exist as a grave danger in Sinhalese Villages except where the inhabitants are habitually employed on Tea or Rubber Estates where they acquire infection through the Tamil labourers. From this fact it seems probable that the disease exists in Ceylon principally and perhaps solely because it is brought in by the coolies imported from India. If this is so, as we believe it is, then a very grave moral obligation rests on planters to aid in stamping out the disease. And it would only be just were the burthen of the necessary taxation to fall upon the estates. But probably the results of systematic work will be so immediate and so effective that the cost will be nothing. It will be an investment yielding a rich and immediate return. We should not therefore grudge any expenditure which may be deemed

necessary. That planters and Government will co-operate heartily we cannot doubt, and that machinery will soon be devised for making effective that co-operation we believe inevitable.

Great then will be the credit due to Mr. Wycliffe Rose who has given his ability and his life's energy where Rockefeller has given his millions to carry out the great labour of the Universal Health Commission. For without the eloquence of Mr. Rose we should have slumbered on for another generation. It is hard to render a sufficient tribute to Mr. Rose, but fortunately for our limitations it is unnecessary. His field of work is the world and he is rewarded by its success and not by what praise he may find time to notice.

VOLUNTEERING IN CEYLON.

In reading the annual report of the Parent Association, the column devoted to Volunteering rather makes one think. On the one hand we see that the C.P.R.C. reached a high water mark of Prosperity in 1913—at any rate as far as figures go—while on the other hand the strength of the Ceylon M.R. shows a regrettable falling off.

Little as the present writer feels qualified to lecture others on military matters I fancy that those who are acquainted with the inner life of the two corps would hardly consider the impression given by the strength returns misleading.

It is an undoubted fact that while recruiting in the C.P.R.C. during 1913 was unusually active, and the efficiency of the Corps taken as a whole, advancing there was something very like a "slump" in the Ceylon M.R.—albeit this corps has been in existence for two and twenty years, and was the pioneer of the Volunteer movement up-country.

It would perhaps be not unprofitable to try and set down the causes of the slump.

In the first place everyone who realises how much part of the crops he raised Colonel E. Gordon Reeves had become, will understand how much his influence has been missed since he laid down the command in March last year. It is true that the Colonel has been unable, through ill health to take a very active part in the training of the M.R. during the last two or three years, but he was held in such respect and affection by his men, that merely to have him at their head was quite enough to ensure the keenness and loyalty of his comrades. This is said in no derogation of the capable officer who succeeded him, but the personal element in Volunteering—especially in Ceylon where there are so many difficulties in the way of even really keen men—is so high, and Colonel Reeves' personality was such a factor in the success of the Corps since its inception, that his retirement inevitably caused what it is hoped will prove only a temporary set back.

Again one feels that the C.M.R. was hardly kept enough before the public during 1913. The War Office has just awoken to the fact that advertisement is as much a necessity to the successful conduct of army recruiting, as it is to any other large concern. The doings of the C.P.R.C. were in direct contrast to those of the C.M.R. in this respect.

Hardly a day passed on which one did not read in the local papers of C.P.R.C. Camps, competitions, inspections, dinners, balls, assault-at-arms, &c., and though perhaps battles are fought otherwise, the social side of Volunteering should not be allowed to languish.

What is the good of having spurs, blue breeches with red stripes plated shoulder chains and a spike to your helmet, if you never have the opportunity of displaying these glorious attributes to an admiring crowd of civilian companions?

Would not the glances turned by the fair on the wearer of this panoply perhaps goad some of these decadents to action?

One looks back with regret to the days when C.M.R. Gymkhanas, assault-at-arms—call them what you will—were far more frequent. Colonel Vincent, the late Commandant referred just before he left the Island, to the day when he first inspected a Troop of the C.M.R. in Kandy. They drilled from 7 a.m. till 11 a.m. when a large and convivial breakfast was discussed, they then played cricket from 1 till 5 when an impromptu game of polo took place followed by an assault-at-arms, a still larger and more convivial dinner and a sing song.

In 1907 for instance when H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught inspected the Corps, 110 out of 160 of all ranks turned out, men coming miles away from Batticaloa, Madulsima and Ratnapura. This was the boom year of the M.R. for during it besides the Annual Camp, 3 Troops of "B" Squadron made a raid on the K.V. making a hard night march followed by a stiff fight in the early hours and ending with the usual assault-at-arms and an inter Troop shooting match. The same year "The Kurunegalle Section" was started under the com-

mand of that wily warrior Sergeant Biggs, now alas too old at forty.

The following excerpt from the "Times of Ceylon" describes a Troop Drill in Ratnapura that year and shows how men worked in those days "The Volunteers turned out at 6 a.m. drilled to 10-15 played a cricket match till 1-30 when they breakfasted and at four o'clock an interesting assault-at-arms was held."

Camp was unusually well attended, this being the fifteenth anniversary of the Corps, in August came more drills and gymkhanas at Kalutara and then came the Tripple wedding in Uva when three bold warriors met their fate. Venus and Mars combined for the occasion for it was made an opportunity for manoeuvres on a large scale lasting the best part of two days.

Then in those days there was always a gymkhana to wind up the years work. Who will forget the time when Captain Bayly the Adjutant made his final bow to the Corps, over his horse's head clean into a lighted hurdle at the Mounted Display given in his honour? Things used to move in those days and the system now alas no more—of drills in conjunction with competitions of sorts proved its value to the hilt as a glance at the following figures will show:—

Years.	Strength	Efficient	Non-efficient.	Percentage.
1906	144	126	18	87.5
1907	174	162	12	93.1
1908	183	173	10	94.5

observe that in these three years when there was so much doing the unit reached its highest point of efficiency and compare the above figures with those of 1913:—

Year.	Strength	Efficient.	Non-efficient.	Percentage.
1913	166	141	25	84.93

If the old system of training was so highly successful why can it not be reverted to as it is a fact that the strength has been slowly dwindling since 1911 and at the present moment it is 94 below establishment.

Truly there were men in those days; where lies the difference now? People live more luxuriously, and say they are kept busier by the cumbrous rules of an exacting Proprietors' Labour Federation and the like; while the motor-car has undoubtedly ousted the humble horse to a considerable extent. Still, there must be left plenty of keen men ready to follow if they are given a lead, and here is the cause of the whole matter. Everything depends on the Troop Officers. The fact of taking Commissioned rank, involves the assumption of responsibilities as well as honours. A slack or inefficient officer can ruin a whole troop, while the man who really takes the trouble to get into touch with each individual under his command will receive his reward by the percentage of "efficients" and by the numbers he takes up to Camp each year. To serve in the ranks, takes up little of either time or money. To be a good officer, takes up a good deal of both, coupled with some expenditure of unselfishness and public spirit and only when men can be found capable of the necessary sacrifice will a Corps like the C.M.R. exist in a really flourishing condition.

The lack of interest shown in the inter troop competitions is a bad sign and illustrates my text. Surely every Troop officer should make it a point of honour to enter a section for the Lloyd Lindsay Competition each year, and should be able to induce some members of his Troop to compete for the Newcomen Shield. At present, perhaps two sections from Uva, and one from Colombo compete each year for the Lloyd Lindsay (last year even Colombo could not raise a team). Simply because there is no one anywhere else who will take the trouble to train four men to enter.

Uva, the Kelani Valley, and in a less degree Kandy, sat by far the best example, both as regards numbers and efficiency.

It must stand as a lasting disgrace, to districts such as Colombo, Ratnapura and Kalutara that so few of the men in these districts belong to the C.M.R. now.

One often hears people seeing at the lack of discipline shown by Volunteers in Ceylon. Let them realise that the one and only remedy for this, is for more men to join and for all to take more trouble to make themselves efficient.

When the warnings of one to whom the whole nation owes a debt of gratitude—as it does to Field Marshal Lord Roberts—are disregarded, there is small hope that the voice of the present pamphleteer will be heard in the wilderness of apathy, but it does seem inconceivable that so many Englishmen should be blind to the duties of citizenship, especially in Ceylon, where we are all rather calling.

Looked at from a purely selfish standpoint, the advantages of volunteering surely outweigh the advantages. Government provides most of the equipment and at the cost of five days in Camp and if possible half a dozen district drills, and an annual Course of Musketry, one is efficient for the year and a grateful country allows one exemption from road tax and jury service.

Camp costs you nothing. You are given free railway passes, batta, mileage, free forage, cheap messing and a horse allowance of Rs. 60 which meets the expenses of all but very ultra genial souls. You can insure your horse on terms which you would get nowhere else in the world, and any one who has been up there will tell you that Camp at Diyatalawa with its various side shows, boxing, wrestling, etc., etc., is the healthiest and happiest holiday imaginable.

So much for the advantages. I do not know of any disadvantages. Everyone seems able to find heaps of time for tennis tournaments and race meets. Yet one of the stock excuses of those who do not attend Camp is that they can't spare the time, or cannot get leave. The man who can't leave his totum to look after itself occasionally ought not to have a billet at all, and no decent firm would refuse him leave to attend Camp unless he had already taken too much leave for less worthy objects.

Were I ever a Colombo Agent, which God forbid, I would make it a rule that no man should be given horse-

keep unless he served five years with the C.M.R.—provided of course that he was not already a member of the C.P.R.C.

I believe the European Community in Ceylon numbers some 8,000, and out of these only 600 can be found with sufficient loyalty to be Volunteers and half of these even never attend Camp. By those who have the subject at heart, the presumption of the present scribe in expressing his humble opinion will perhaps be pardoned.

“TROOPER.”

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya, on 7th May, 1914.

Present:—The Acting Director (Mr. T. Petch), Chairman, the Government Entomologist, the Rubber Research Chemist, the Assistant Government Agent, Puttalam, Messrs. F. H. Layard, H. Inglis, G. C. Bliss, A. W. Beven, M. L. Wilkins, H. D. Garrick, A. S. Long-Price, N. G. Campbell, the Manager, Experiment Station, Peradeniya, Secretary; and as visitors, Messrs. D. J. Blyth, H. A. Beachcroft, F. A. Skipwitt and H. S. Cameron.

With reference to the tea yields given in the Gangaruwa Progress Report, the Chairman stated that when these plots were pruned one branch was left unpruned on each bush. This had been done on a neighbouring estate in the belief that bushes so treated came into bearing earlier. Mr. Garrick said this had been practised in Matale, with the idea that the live branch helped to keep the bush alive through any ensuing drought, and in that it had been considered successful. The Chairman stated that advantage had been taken of this pruning to institute experiments to determine whether leaving the branch had any effect on the subsequent growth of shoots. Two rows in each of plots 149 and 150 had been pruned completely and a number of pruned and partly-pruned bushes had been selected for measurement of individual shoots. Unfortunately, the latter bushes had developed disease, and no results would be possible, but it was hoped to come to some conclusion from a comparison of the actual yields of the pruned and part-pruned rows.

On Mr. Bamber's recommendation, the live branches had been plucked regularly until the bushes were ready for tipping, and an average of about 100 lbs. of made tea per acre obtained in four months. Mr. Bliss thought that the expense of plucking would make it not worth while.

2. The Chairman announced that Dr. Friederichs had recently visited Ceylon, and had examined the traps laid down at Gangaruwa and Maha-illuppalama, finding about hundred larvæ of the Rhinoceros beetle in each. He had, however, found a plentiful supply everywhere, even within hundred yards of the Galle Face Hotel, and was rather astonished that the palms did not show more damage.

The comparative absence of damage might, he thought, be accounted for by the fact that the beetles were able to distribute their ravages over an enormous number of palms. The traps were very useful in keeping the pest in check and should be adopted. Six were being laid down at Gangaruwa, stones being used for the sides instead of palm stems, as the larvæ take refuge in the latter. Some doubt exists whether the fungus which Dr. Friederichs is endeavouring to introduce into the traps will be available, as the Samoan fungus has never yet been cultivated. Dr. Friederichs has promised to send specimens on the larvæ from Samoa.

Mr. Long-Price considered that some method of destroying the red beetle (*Rhyncophorus signaticollis*), which did more damage than the black beetle, would be of immense advantage. Mr. Rutherford stated that the Red Beetle laid its eggs in wounds in the tree, and there was a general belief that an attack by the Black Beetle predisposed the tree to the attacks of Red Beetle.

3. Mr. Long-Price made suggestions for the improvement of the coconut crop statement of Maha-Illuppalama, which were approved by the Committee.

4. Tables showing the results of the rubber tapping experiments in Gangaruwa were distributed, and, after explanation by the Chairman, a general discussion on them took place. These results will be published as a Bulletin.

The Committee considered that the pricking (or incision) systems under experiment were shown to be inferior to the excision methods. The Bamber pricker yielded a high percentage of scrap, while with the Northway pricker the yield was low. It was decided to continue tapping by the Northway system for another year to determine the yield from bark previously tapped, and to discontinue the Bamber pricker which has now been experimented with for four years.

5. The Chairman read out the crop returns of the cacao manurial experiments, on which manuring has now been stopped for three years. The results, in general, seemed to point to the fact that the diminution of crop for the last season was due, at least in part, to the cessation of manuring. The average crop per acre for 1913-14 was only 3 cwt., the lowest since the experiments were begun. It was decided to allow the plots to run for another year without manuring to obtain further evidence on this point. A bulletin on the cacao experiments is in preparation.

As the trees of the manurial experiment on plots 63-67, instituted in 1912, have now grown so big that the disc harrow cannot be used, it was decided to apply the manures in half-circles round the trees, instead of down the centre line as hitherto.

6. The proposal of the Director (Mr. R. N. Lyne) to establish an advisory Committee for the Chilaw and Anuradhapura experiment grounds was discussed, and it was finally resolved:—

"That in the opinion of this Committee it is desirable that the sub-Committee of Coconut trial grounds become the Low-Country Experiment sub-Committee; that it deal with experiments with all Low-Country products (other

than tea and rubber), and that it meet quarterly, in Colombo on the days appointed for the meetings of the Board of Agriculture, or elsewhere as may be found desirable.

D. S. CORLETT,
Secretary,
Committee of Agricultural Experiments.

NOTICE.

Advertising for Bolters.

The Coast Agency Committee discussed at the September Meeting the expediency of advertising in the Newspapers offering rewards for coolies who have absconded or bolted.

It was decided that this practice is inadvisable and the Secretary was directed to publish this decision in the "Planting Gazette."

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

Tickets on the Railway.

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kanganies proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

A Forms.

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September 1913.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution Referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the "Planting Gazette" and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly,
14th October, 1913.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January, 1913.

Coast Agency Cess.

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the 'Planters' Gazette.'"

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.**Removal of Resthouse at Kadawala to Watawala.**

Notice is hereby given that the Resthouse at Kadawala (Ginigathena) will be removed to Watawala with effect from the 1st July, 1914. The Resthouse will be closed to the public from June 25th to July 30th, 1914.

By Order,
C. H. COLLINS,
Secretary.

Provincial Road Committee,
Kandy, 18th May, 1914.

COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.

The usual comparative statement appended shows that at the end of April statistical returns of coolies registered at the Agencies show a falling off of no less than 1,572 coolies and up to time of writing the deficit has been further accentuated. There is no doubt that recruiting is not so active this season as last and that Kanganies are not coming over from Ceylon in such appreciable numbers. A glance at the monthly report on recruiting prospects shows that labour is available in a good many of the older Tamil Districts, more especially in Madura. Any adverse conditions that may exist on this side are not sufficient to account for this serious falling off in recruiting, and I

think the cause may be fairly attributed to the apparent slackening of demand from Ceylon itself. The number of A Forms received during the first four months of the year was 9,263 as compared with 11,217 for the same period during 1913, a deficit of almost 2,000. The appended statement shows the greatest falling off was in March.

Colombo Forwarding Agency.

Arrangements have now been completed by which coolies proceeding to South India for recruiting purposes from estates utilising the above Agency can be forwarded via the new Indo-Ceylon route. To do so it will be necessary for the estate Superintendent to alter form No. 1 in Meal Ticket Book indicating the route by which he wishes his coolies despatched, whilst forms Nos. 2 and 3 need not be used. Coolies so despatched will be escorted to the train in charge of peons. The Agent can purchase tickets to Madura or stations North of Madura on the South Indian Railway system. In cases where coolies hold A Forms on Agencies other than Madura and Dindigul and have to receive pre-advances thereon, these coolies will be booked to Trichinopoly to receive such payment at my Head Office. They can then be re-booked to their ultimate destination either on the South Indian Railway or Madras and Southern Mahratta Systems. Arrangements for through booking from the C.G.Ry. to stations on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway are not yet completed.

Arrangements are now in course of completion that will ensure these coolies being met at Dhanushkodi where a prolonged stop is made for Customs examination. They will be similarly fed and seen off by the Agent in charge of this Depot. When these arrangements at Dhanushkodi are completed, special tickets on the Dhanushkodi Agency entitling coolies to receive one meal will be issued to Estates requiring them.

Re-Arrangement of Circles.

I referred to this matter in my notes last month and I now append a Schedule showing re-distribution which will, I consider, effect not only economy in working, but give better results and enable closer European supervision to be paid to the more important Tamil Agencies.

Ceylon Labour Commission Map.

The Director-General of Surveys, Madras, has promised delivery of these Maps by June 25th. I shall be glad if Superintendents requiring same will inform me of their requirements which will be attended to in the order that they are received. A preliminary supply of 300 copies has been ordered in anticipation of estate requirements. Where a Map is required varnished and bound ready to set up on rollers, this should be indicated. A small additional charge will be made for this extra work.

Postal.

I shall be glad if Superintendents will kindly refrain from addressing me personally on matters connected with the business of the Commission, as on many occasions this custom has led to delay owing to the fact that I have been

away in Camp and the letters have therefore been forwarded on to me instead of being dealt with at Head Office promptly.

Superintendents Letters Sent by Kanganies.

In repeated instances, Kanganies fail to bring these direct to the Head Office, but deliver them when they are taking coolies back to Ceylon after completion of their recruiting work, thus making it impossible for action to be taken on instructions conveyed by the Superintendent in his letter. In any case, copies of such letters forwarded through the post addressed to the Commissioner would enable me to look up a Kangany should he not appear at the Head Office within a reasonable period of the arrival of the duplicate.

Trichinopoly Agency.

There is a large falling off in the coolies registered at this depot for the first 3 months of the year. But taken

month by month, it is seen that it is in the figures for January and February the bulk of the reduction has taken place. The numbers despatched in March have been nearly up to those despatched in March last year, and it is anticipated that, now the harvest is over, the figures will show a decided increase.

Mandapam Agency.

Conditions in the District of Ramnad are exceedingly favourable for recruiting. During 1913 nothing like the usual supply of rain was experienced and there has been no rain during the present year. Crops have not been satisfactory and labour should be available now the recruiting season has commenced.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,

Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

April 7th, 1914.

REDISTRIBUTION OF CIRCLES.

SCHEDULE SHOWING RE-ARRANGEMENT OF CIRCLES AND THE DISTRICTS AND AGENCIES THEY COVER.

	CIRCLES.	DISTRICTS.	AGENCIES.
Headquarters :—Trichinopoly. Resident Staff :—Commissioner Dy. Commissioner, Accountant and 1st Assistant Commissioner.	1. Headquarters Circle.	Coinbatore Tanjore Part of Trichy. Puducottah Malabar	Erode and Karur Tanjore and Ammaapatnam Trichy and Manaparai Puducottah Palghat and Cannanore
	2. Madura Circle.	North Madura South Madura Tinnevely Ramnad	Dindigul Madura Tinnevely and Tataparai Mandapam and Tondi
3rd Assistant Commissioner.	3. Salem Circle.	Salem Vellore Part of Trichy Mysore	Salem, Atur and Dharmapuri Tirupatur and Jolarpet Musiri, Turaiyur and Namakal Nanjangud and Kuppam
2nd Assistant Commissioner.	4. Arcot Circle.	North Arcot Chingleput South Arcot	Katpadi and Arkonam • Chingleput Villupuram
		Chittoor Madras Guntur Cuddapah Nellore Anantapur	Chittoor Madras Guntur Cuddapah Nellore Guntakal

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,

Ceylon Labour Commissioner

HEAD QUARTER CIRCLE.

CAMPING REPORT, MARCH, 1914, MADURA DISTRICT.—

During my camp in the Madura District I had not many opportunities of going out to villages, as I had to be in and out of Madura town a good deal, but I went to several and distributed a good many notices. Madura itself is a large town growing daily, the population increasing rapidly owing to many people being employed there in the cotton mills and in connection with weaving a particular kind of red cloth which is peculiar to Madura. Madura District is a good field for recruiting and I found that Ceylon was well-known in most of the villages, which are numerous and very thickly populated.

On the 23rd March I motored to a village called Kotagudi 52 miles out and back from Madura, this village as well off the main road and I had a strenuous time pushing the motor cycle over a sand track to get to it, the people were very affable and I was able to do the business that I had to do there connected with a defaulting case, interviewed the village Munsiff and talked to some of the people. I gave the Munsiff notices, and he told me labour as available, judging by the people's anxiety to ask questions I should say a good kangany would be able to get labour. I had very similar experience at the other villages at which I stopped at on my way back to Madura, their names were Melur Thekkuthrew, Vellarapatty, Siddam-patty, and Utlamkudi, in all these villages I was told that no one had been to Ceylon though they had heard of it, could not find any kanganies in any of these villages.

On the 23rd I motored out to Solavandan a distance of 27 miles, over a very bad road, there was a large dry river to cross, I went right into the town to the village Munsiff's house, gave him some notices, a crowd gathered. There should be any amount of labour in these villages, the wages are annas 6 and annas 4 and these people are inclined to emigrate. On my way back I stopped at the village of Kodamangalam, Kelamallor and Thuvereman.

On the 24th March I called at a village called Pallanathan, the people here hurried to see the motor and wanted to ask questions, I was much struck with so many people having nothing to do, I told the village Munsiff about Ceylon. I also went out to another village called Tiruparankundram and distributed notices.

On the 25th March after my work at the office I motored out to Tirumangalam a distance of 13 miles, and remained there that day.

On the 26th March from there I went out to a village called Alankulam 12 miles out and back, this journey had to be done in a jutka as there was no road to the village, the Munsiff was not in the village but practically the whole of the village collected and I gathered a good deal of information, some of the people here had been to Ceylon and took an opportunity of venting their displeasure against the Kanganies, assuring me that they not only cheated them, but they also cheated the Dorai. They said they could earn annas 8 a day, which made me remark that their dirty little hovels of houses did not give the im-

pression that they were so wealthy, this amused many of them. I am sure if Superintendents went themselves to some of these out of the way villages they would be able to get labour, I find that the villagers are always pleased to see a European and ready to listen to what he has to say, they have an idea that the Kanganies treat them badly.

In the evening the village Munsiff of Tirumangalam came to see me, he told me a good many coolies go from these parts.

On the 27th March I was instructed to proceed to Mandapam, so had to cut short my stay at Tirumangalam.

I returned to Madura on the 27th and spent the greater part of the day at the office, interviewing Kanganies, etc., to show the spirit in which the Kanganies approach the coolies, one Kangany in all seriousness asked if he might not have handcuffs for his bolters, I told him if he did so, he would probably find handcuffs on himself.

On 31st I motored out to a village called Sattapatti a distance of 6 miles from Madura, I did not go into the village as there was no road, but sent the peon in to bring me the Kangany I wished to see, in the meantime I remained in the village near Sattapatti talking to the villagers.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Madura Agency.

I am under the impression that the year 1914 is going to be a big year for recruiting in the Madura District, there is already an increase of 360 over last year's figures.

I questioned a large number of Kanganies as to why so many coolies were being brought for registration just now, they say that the crops are not good and that there is a very great scarcity of water in most of the taluks, tanks are dried up and people are getting water from the wells in the fields.

A large number of coolies come from Madura, Melur and Tirumangalam Taluks. Judging by the numbers of villages and people that I have seen during my short tour in this district I should say that there is and will be any amount of labour available.

The wages are high, viz., annas 6 per man, annas 4 per woman, but I doubt if they are as high as this all the year round.

Palghat Agency.

Recruiting in Malabar is very slack at present owing to there being a big festival on and until this is over Malayalees do not like to leave their country. Prospects will be better after this month. Up to date there has been no rain this year, which is rather extraordinary as there should be showers in March and April.

Erode Agency.

As you will see by the figures there is a large decrease in the recruiting figures, there were several Kanganies present and I questioned them as to why they were so unsuccessful (most of them were returning to their estates

with one cooly each) they say that they are not given large enough pre-advances to pay the coolies debts, and also said the coolies say that the wages paid in Ceylon are not sufficient. Next month prospects will improve.

Puducottah Agency.

Recruiting prospects have not been very good in April but will improve in May. A good many coolies go from the State to the Straits, and I was informed that Planters have lately been there recruiting for the Palanys.

G. S. DUPEN.

Assistant Commissioner.

SALEM CIRCLE.

CAMPING REPORT, APRIL, 1914.—Starting the above tour on the 14th, I moved my camp a distance of 17 miles from Salem to Sirkarvalarpady. The next day, the 15th, I visited a village named Mottupatty in order to look up some Kanganies and interview the village Munsiff there. The average wages here are 4 annas and 2 annas and debts from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30. The land looks very dry at present and the village people did not appear at all interested in my arrival at their village.

On the 16th, I struck out across country in a jutka, and to start off with, stopped at a very tiny village consisting of about 6 or 7 houses, which boasted of the name of Kavarakovilpatty. One man, a crowd of small boys and a pariah dog were all that greeted me. The first mentioned, after informing me that they were able to earn from 3 to 4 annas a day and none of their community, who were all pariahs, had gone to Ceylon, said that none of them had any desire whatever to leave their little village. From here I laboured on to a village called Vellalakudam, walking two-thirds of the way, as the unfortunate jutka pony showed signs of lung trouble and made a most alarming noise. Having duly arrived at the village, I proceeded to the village Munsiff's house and made some enquiries about Kanganies working in that vicinity. This elderly official was most obliging and kind, and in addition to assuaging my thirst with several coconuts, proceeded himself to fetch the Kanganies and informed me that the village debts for coolies were on an average Rs. 10 a head. Men only get from 2½ to 3 annas a day and women from 2 to 2½ annas. Rain has been extremely scarce and crops very poor, and it was pleasing to hear from the village Munsiff himself, that the eight people who had gone to Ceylon from here, had been writing to their relations and sending money; a fact which seemed to please him quite as much as it did me to hear it. He also assured me that as a result of this others were keen to go there too.

On the 17th, I visited Putharagoundanpalayam, where I was lucky in being able to unearth several Kanganies and ascertain that the local wages were 4 annas and 2 annas to 2½ annas. A great many people have gone to Ceylon from here and from what I could gather, a great many more Pariahs and Pallas are willing to go. The debts are from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40. I next stopped at Peddanaikanpalayam.

Here also I was able to find a Kangany and interviewed him, but gathered that none was keen to emigrate from this village. Village debts are about Rs. 40 a head and wages 4 annas and 2 annas. Men who work with their own bullocks can earn 6 annas a day. At my next stop, Narasingapuram, a large crowd gathered round and showed much interest in the notices distributed. The local wages earned here are 6 annas and 4 annas, as the inhabitants are mostly mat makers. Those who work in the fields, however, get only from 2 to 3 annas a day. Penang is preferred in this place as they say the wages paid are higher, and a large number have gone there in consequence. The village debts are Rs. 25 a head. After interviewing a Kangany here, who said that he could not recruit any coolies as they all preferred to go to Penang, I moved on to Mullivadi. Judging by the crowd that pursued me and hemmed me in when I stopped in this place, and the rampant way in which they pounced on the notices, I should have imagined that they all wanted to emigrate, but unfortunately such is not the case and very few can be recruited. Their debts are Rs. 50 a head and wages 4 annas and 2 annas. I also interviewed another Kangany here.

On the 18th, my poor Motor Cycle was again subjected to a terrible battering, as the roads about here are at present in a more than usually disgraceful condition. Stopping at Ayodipatnam, the people informed me that only 2 of their number had gone to Ceylon and that they were not at all anxious to emigrate. They showed absolutely no interest whatever and informed me that their wages were from 4 annas to 6 annas and 2 annas and debts about Rs. 8 or Rs. 10 a head, which is probably the reason why. At the next 2 villages, Kottayur and Kupanur, one on either side of the road, they told me that most of the labour available went to the Shevaroy Coffee Estates and was not willing to go elsewhere. They earn a local wage of from 2 to 3 annas. I then moved on to Achankottapatty, where I was again informed that any labour available went regularly to the Shevaroy and had no desire to emigrate further. The same evening I walked out across the fields to a little village called Manaickenpatty. Here I interviewed a Kangany as well as the village Munsiff. The latter individual was very attentive at first, but on realising my mission, sat himself down and there remained until I wished him good-bye, after talking to the villagers, not even raising his hand in farewell, as I did to him on my departure. I had a long and interesting talk with one or two of the villagers, who seemed extremely bitter towards Ceylon Kanganies in general, and described in detail all kinds of atrocities they were supposed to perform on the unfortunates they recruited, the chief of which was that they managed to saddle a cooly with a most absurd debt and once getting him over there, never let him come back or write to his relations. I convinced them, as well as I could, that the evils they spoke of were things of the past. A great many more have gone to Penang from this village, as the wages they say are higher and Ceylon Kanganies are feared.

The villagers here have debts from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 and earn a daily wage of 4 annas and 2 annas. About 15 have gone to Ceylon and since then have never been heard of. Ceylon Kanganies seem to have earned a very bad name in the surrounding villages of this part of the taluk. One leading man informed me that it was not infrequent for the villagers who had suffered at his hands, through his having surreptitiously taken away some of their relations or children without their knowledge, to set upon him and beat him full sore, if he showed his nose within their village precincts—whether he be good or bad, and without any explanation—on the score that he was a Kanganey from Ceylon, and therefore the object of their revenge. On the 20th I returned to Salem and on the 21st left there for Rasipuram, a distance of 16 miles South-East.

On the 22nd my Motor Cycle being *hors de combat*. I proceeded by jukka to a village called Koneripatty. I was met here with a cold reception and told that Penang was much preferred to Ceylon. They, however, accepted the notices with some disdain and informed me that 3 or 4 had gone to Ceylon. Their debts appear to be high, from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 a head and their local wages 4 annas and 2 annas. I then stopped at Kakaveri, a village consisting almost entirely of weavers, who all appeared busily employed with their industry down both sides of the village street, a fact which bore out the statement of one of their number, who informed me that they were earning excellent wages and were fully employed. They incur debts to the extent of from Rs. 20 to Rs. 50 a head and have no desire to leave their village. Leaving here I went on to a village named Sirapally, where the local wages earned are annas and 2 annas and debts from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40. A few coolies have gone to Ceylon from the Pariah and Pallararters, but the rest of the population, who are nearly all weavers, showed very little interest. At my next stopping place, Namagiripet, I found several Ceylon men with the help of the village Munsiff, who was extremely obliging and did a lot for me. The people are very keen to go

Ceylon from here and their debts are from Rs. 10 to Rs. 30 and wages 4 annas and 2 annas. Several have come over, and one youth who informed me that he had turned from Ceylon for good, was sporting a gold-laced turban and looked extremely well fed. From here I went to Ariyakoundanpatty. A few Cobblers have gone to Ceylon from here and there are others keen on going. The crops are very bad as water has been scarce. The local wages earned are 6 annas and 2 annas and debts from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20. From this village I went on to Vellalipatty. The village Munsiff of this place was bursting with anxiety to do all he could for me and was most genial. The local debts are from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 and wages 5 annas and 3 annas. I am sure the Village Munsiff here would help anyone if they went to him and recommend them to do so if they are visiting this village.

On the 23rd I went out to Palapalayam. This is a village of weavers and few have gone to Ceylon. Their debts are between Rs. 10 and Rs. 50 a head and they earn from 2 to 4½ annas a day. They do not seem very keen

on emigration at present, but it is quite possible that a few could be induced to go to Ceylon if recruited properly. From here I went on to a village called Gurusampalayam which also consists mostly of weavers. The local wage is 2 to 4 annas and no one has emigrated to any place. The weavers caste, as a rule does not show much interest in anything but the Motor Cycle, but are generally ready to give any information required. At the next place, Pillanellur, the inhabitants are mostly Toddy extractors and though poor and involved to the extent of Rs. 10 to Rs. 40 a head, are not anxious to emigrate. They earn a daily wage of about 4 annas and 2 annas and depend entirely on this. At the next two villages one on either side of the road named Koppambady and Sannampalayam, which contain about 40 houses of Sanars or Toddy extractors and 50 houses of Vellalas respectively, the local wages earned are about 4 annas and 2 annas. No one has been to Ceylon from either of these villages and very little interest was shown in Ceylon emigration. On the 24th I visited Alagapatty, off the main road. About 10 people have gone to Ceylon from here and a great many others to Penang. The local wages are annas 4 and annas 2 and the crops are in a poor state. Several Kanganies have been rather roughly handled by the villagers here for taking away minors and others without the knowledge of their parents. The next place at which I stopped is Venandur, a village of weavers. About 20 have emigrated to Penang from here but no one to Ceylon. The village debts are between Rs. 10 and Rs. 40 and wages 4 annas and 2 annas. The scarcity of water is being very much felt and the crops are in consequence in a very poor state. Going off the road again, I stopped at a little village called Vedampalayam. This place contains about 20 houses of Padayachis one or two of whom have emigrated to Ceylon. Local wages are about 4 annas and 2 annas and coolies debts from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50. At the next village called Minakkal further off the road, there appeared to be extensive building operations going on for some rich inhabitants. This village consists of 539 houses and has a population of about 2,600. The people appear fairly prosperous and earn a daily wage of about 5 annas and 2 annas. A few people have gone to Ceylon but they are not on the whole very keen on emigration in this place. On the 25th I visited Santhur Attiampatti. The people who are nearly all Vellalas are not keen on emigration here though they told me they were receiving letters from the 2 or 3 who had gone to Ceylon, but no money. Wages are about 5 annas and 2½ annas and the coolie classes do not incur any debts whatever. From here I visited Panamarathupatty between 10 and 15 Sakilis or Cobblers have gone to Ceylon from here, but the people are on the whole not very keen on emigration as they have got plenty of work in the fields. The wages are about 4 annas and 2 annas and debts about Rs. 50 a head. It is from the lake at this place that Salem derives its pipe water supply. On the 26th I had a long interview with the village Munsiff of Rasipuram, where I was in camp. He is an extremely courteous Official and promised to have some of the notices

I gave him pasted up in conspicuous places. I was glad to hear from him that a lot of people have emigrated from this place to Ceylon and are continually writing and sending money to their relations. As a result of this Ceylon has gained a very good impression and the people have no fear whatever of emigration there. This is a very good instance of the effect that a little communication between the estate cooly and his village relations has on the emigrating cooly. The local debts in this place are from Rs. 10 to Rs. 40 and wages 4 annas and 2 annas. Unfortunately the bogus Palla gangs of this place have duped Ceylon rather badly once or twice, with the result that coolies from this part are as a rule regarded with some suspicion. I also had a long interview with the Deputy Tahsildar here, an extremely nice man, who merely corroborated the village Munsiff's statements regarding the general good feeling towards Ceylon that existed locally and quite agreed with me that it was small blame to the cooly if he emigrated to Ceylon to better his prospects and earn a higher wage than the pittance which was all he could ever expect in his own village. On the 27th I went to Omalur via Salem and on the 28th I visited Aranganur the Village Munsiff whom I interviewed here, told me that Ceylon emigration was rather feared by most of the people as those who had gone there had not been heard of again. He said that if only they could hear from their friends now and again from Ceylon that they were safe and well, people would be very keen to go there. This village and the one adjoining it, viz., Sembanur, has a mixture of all castes but, the Chetty prevails for the most part. Men earn from 3 to 4 annas and women from 1½ to 2 annas a day and the coolies debts are very low and below Rs. 10 a head. From Omalur I returned to Salem on the 29th having travelled a distance of 297 miles, partly over the roads and partly across country. Another unfortunate mishap to my Motor cycle this camp, owing to the frightful state of the roads, confined my travelling to jutkas for most of the camp, otherwise the distance travelled would have been considerably more. The information which I have reported in detail village by village, in my report, will, I think, show what my general impression must be after this camp. If the cooly can be made to write to his relations from Ceylon fairly frequently, I am sure that a great deal of the ill feeling and fear that exists at present towards Ceylon will vanish, but at the same time it must be remembered that a great deal of this ill feeling has been created by the Kangany himself, who, I fear, only thinks of the moment and does not look ahead or realize that by leaving a bad impression behind him he establishes a deep rooted ill feeling towards Ceylon as a whole, and all who came from that country and attempt to recruit labour after him. These are simply facts as I have found them in the large number of villages I have visited up to date.

Grand Kolloor Feast—Dharmapuri.

The Dharmapuri Agent was instructed by me to send out notices to the crowds who gathered for the above feast 7 miles from Dharmapuri and to proceed himself there

and explain Ceylon to the people. He reports that he did so and about 1,000 notices were distributed; Ceylon explained, people told about free passages, and the Notices read out to illiterates. He further reports that, though many of them were interested, they grumbled that they do not receive any letters from their relations who have gone to Ceylon as frequently they get them from Penang.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Salem Agency.

There are at present practically no standing crops anywhere in this Taluk with perhaps the exception of a few acres here and there of paddy or cholam where there is sufficient well water to keep them growing. The Magnesite Works 5 miles from Salem have been closed for some time owing, I understand, to the depression of market prices. The labour that has been thrown idle by this has been taken up by the D.P.W. for extensive building works in Salem and its surroundings. Of the percentage of coolies who emigrate from these parts it can safely be said that only 15 per cent. go to Ceylon and the balance 85 per cent. to Penang, Singapore, and the Fiji Islands, &c. One of the main reasons for this is that the people are still under the impression that they are burdened with false debt by the Kangany whose policy of recruitment has embittered them towards Ceylon. I give here the substance of an extremely interesting and useful report made by the Salem agent as the result of a 7 days' advertising tour in the Omalur Taluk, Salem District, and in some of the interior villages off the beaten track. At a village named Muthanaikenpatty 4 miles from Omalur and where he states a large shandy takes place weekly to which people from villages for 10 miles round gather, he says he advertised and explained Ceylon to some six or seven thousand people, all agricultural labourers. Having read the notice to them, as most of them were illiterates, 3 or 4 of them asked him whether it was a fact that people were taken to Ceylon by Kanganies and sold there to the Europeans and he set their minds at rest explaining that this was an entirely false rumour and was not possible under British rule. They then asked him why people who emigrated to Ceylon never wrote to their relations or were never heard of again, though it was years since they left their villages and to this he could only reply that they could not write if they were illiterates. May I once more draw attention to this corroboration of my own reports. Moving on from here, 1½ miles, the agent visited a village called Kadiampatty to which he proceeded in company with the Village Munsiff. This village is only a hamlet containing about 50 houses and the crops have been a failure, as they are obliged to depend entirely on the rain for cultivating them. 2 notices were pasted up in a public chavady and the few men who had just returned from the local shandy said that owing to the failure of the crop almost every one in the village had debts amounting to from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50 per head. From this village the

gent proceeded to Karichavudy, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away, the population of which is about 200 and the houses from 50 to 60. Half of the cultivation here is carried on by well irrigation and 50 per cent. of the crops have been destroyed by blight this year and their debts are from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50 head. Ceylon was explained to a large gathering of men and women but here also they seem to have been impressed with the idea that Kanganies sold their recruited labour and were in consequence disinclined to emigrate there. From this village Palakotupatty, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles' distant was visited. This village consists of about 30 scattered houses and depends solely on rain for cultivating purposes with the result that the crops have failed. A large number of the villagers earn a livelihood working for the D.P.W. at Omalur. Going on from here a village named Kattupatty, only $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away was visited. This village consists of about 40 houses scattered round and possesses lands which are let out on lease to about 20 per cent. of the inhabitants who have no lands of their own. They had apparently no knowledge of Ceylon and after having explained to them, seemed very interested. They asked many questions regarding the wages and the kind of work they would be expected to do, and were given the necessary information. On the 14th March, the village of Kamalapuram close to Omalur was visited. This village consists of from 50 to 60 houses, 30 of which belong to the agriculturist population and about 10 to the labouring classes. The latter have had a close connection with Ceylon for the past 4 or 5 years and complained very bitterly that Kanganies pocketed the money which was rightly due to the coolies they recruited, piled on exorbitant debts and exaggerated the payment of wages over in Ceylon which they said was done as an inducement for them to go there. It was explained to them in detail that certain estates paid their Railway fares and batta and certain other facts of which they were ignorant. From here Pottiyapuram a village about a mile from the last one with a population of about 400 was visited. In this village half of the inhabitants own lands and the other half work for a monthly salary on other people's lands. Their wages are from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 a month. The large land owners and the influential men here discourage recruiting, but the people were rather keen and with some higher influence could probably be induced to go. Ceylon was explained to them very carefully to which they listened attentively. The next village visited Semmandapatty has a population of about 1,500 50 per cent. of whom are weavers, 25 per cent. owning lands and 25 per cent working as labourers. This village is connected with a group of hamlets each having an average population of between 100 to 200 souls. The names of these villages are Dharmapuram, Thalavur, Karavalli, Mankottai, Kattur, Perapatty, Kattupalanthur, Mettur and Parapatty. Ceylon seems to have been freely advertised in Semmandapatty by a Kangany who came there and threw his money about and by so doing induced several people to emigrate to Ceylon. The hamlets have not as yet been tapped as Kanganies rather fear the influence of several rich land owners residing here. The

villagers seem extremely keen and were very anxious to know how they could earn more than their average wage which does not amount to more than two or three annas ordinarily and from three to four annas during paddy cultivation in July. The next village visited, Pagalpatty and its surrounding hamlets Sellapillaikottai, Paupambady and Nallagovindampatty are all run by Mittadars. The crops are in a fair state about here and one of the Mittadars who owns extensive lands in these parts and is a friend of the Agent's complained to him that he had large areas lying waste for want of labour. Such being the case it is not much good endeavouring to procure emigration from here. At the next village Kadiampatty, there is some labour available but as it is at the foot of the Sher-veroy Hills and about 25 per cent. of the population go to the Yercaud Estates, it is not advisable to recruit here. From here Devattypatty consisting of about 35 houses was visited. This hamlet entirely depends on rain for cultivation purposes and the crops have therefore proved a failure. Wages are from 2 to 3 annas and there is every prospect of procuring some labour from here if it is properly recruited by a European. The next village visited, Pannapatty, which has a group of hamlets named Kangianur, Matukaraputhur and Marakandur consists of about 100 houses with a total population of about 500. Three-quarters of the population own lands and cultivate them and the remaining 25 per cent. have plenty of work. They seemed, however, attracted by the information that higher wages were securable in Ceylon but unfortunately have already got a very bad impression of the Ceylon Kangany. Their wages are from 2 to 4 annas and it is quite possible that about 15 per cent. could be induced to emigrate if they could be fairly recruited. On the 16th March the villages of Cinnampatty and its surrounding hamlets, viz., Papampatty, Natiampatty, Kuppanur, Sengatupatty, Palanigavundanur were visited. In this group both wet and dry cultivation are carried on, 60 per cent. of the villagers owning lands and 40 per cent. working as labourers. They earn local wages amounting to $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 annas and about 40 per cent. are anxious to emigrate provided they are recruited by Superintendents themselves and not by Kanganies or any one to whom commission is paid on them as they compare this form of recruiting to the bartering of goods for sale the similarity to which they appear to be extremely sensitive. Lastly, Nangavalli which has a group of hamlets attached to it named Veerakal, Karattupatty, Tharakatianur, Samittur, Polaganur, and Vanavasi was visited. 25 per cent. of the population of this group are Koravers of whom Ceylon has lately expressed its dislike as a labourer. These criminal classes work as dyers under the weaver caste. Wells are used largely for irrigation purposes in these parts and about 20 per cent. of the desirable labourers are keen on emigration if they are recruited in a genuine straightforward manner by others than Kanganies. This brings to a close a very interesting and instructive little advertising tour which, I think, contains some extremely useful information

for the benefit of the Superintendents at the same time pointing out the necessity for adopting a different policy of recruitment to that carried on by the Kangany and for speedily removing this bad impression which he has created.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

ARCOT CIRCLE.

CAMPING REPORT, APRIL, 1912.—On the 10th April for Villupuram and arriving there on the 11th I began my inspection at the Agency that day. As there was a good deal to do at the Agency I remained at Villupuram until the 17th when I left for Tirukoilur. I found that there was nothing to be done in Villupuram Taluk itself as very little recruiting goes on in that taluk. I had therefore to choose another centre from which to work and I chose Tirukoilur as the one which would give me most opportunities.

Whilst in Villupuram I motored out along the Pondicherry road and visited the villages of Agaramsalay, Koliyanur, Panakuppam, and Valavanur. On a previous visit to Valavanur the impression I received of it was not a good one but several coolies have gone from that village to Ceylon and I thought it worth while to advertise here. I must say on this occasion, although I did not stop long enough to receive such hospitality as was afforded me last time. It seemed to me that the people were much more interested in the notices which I gave out and they were in great demand. I am still unable to recommend the place as a deliberate recruiting ground but in a business place of this sort to which the country people come from shandies and in connection with the extensive groundnut crops it is necessary that prejudices should be destroyed and I hope I have done something in this direction.

In the other villages on the way the people were much less sophisticated and advertising will probably do positive good, though for about 3 or 4 months in the year the people can earn high wages at groundnut digging and are well off.

From Tirukoilur I motored out to the village Periyasevalai where I heard news of 2 Kanganies who are recruiting there and advertised in the following villages on the way:—Vengarampudy, Manakuppam, Ponnaivalam, Kunnathur, Viranampet, Ammasapalaiyam, Athandamaruthur and Vadamaruthur. These villages are, of course, well within the groundnut area but, except perhaps Periyasevalai itself, they do not touch any of the main routes of the traffic. I gathered that the immediate prospects of securing labour were only fair but that they would be very much better in a few weeks time.

I next went from Tirukoilur straight to the village of Kilaiyur, a distance of only some 4 miles, to check a Yadast in that village. The people here seem to know about Ceylon and were not very enthusiastic. The notices

were read with great interest, however, and they certainly seemed to make the villagers look at things somewhat in a new light.

The following day I proceeded to check Yadasts in the villages of Athandamaruthur, Vadamaruthur and Nembili all fairly close together and not far from the travellers' bungalow. The headman of Athandamaruthur village lived in Nembili and was headman of both villages. In these villages I stopped for some time talking to the Village Munsiff and to the villagers generally about Ceylon. In Nembili, as in many other places, Ceylon, Penang and Natal were all mentioned together and apparently thought of as one place and I proceeded to disabuse the villagers minds of this idea. It was rubber and rubber work that they chiefly wanted to know about. They had heard that good wages could be earned at this work and I think some of their questions were put to me to get confirmation or otherwise of the high wages they had heard about. My impression was that what I told them confirmed all they had heard so that it would seem that no lies had been told in this village. I think recruiting ought to be decidedly successful in all these villages.

The following day (the 21st) I moved my camp to Tiruvannamalai, sending all my samon by rail and travelling by road myself. Tiruvannamalai Taluk is in North Arcot District but all the recruiting here is done through Villupuram Agency and this is the Taluk in which recruiting prospects were considered best at this time of the year. The journey by road from Tirukoilur to Tiruvannamalai was quite an interesting one. I checked a Yadast in the village of Velandai and passed through and advertised in the following villages:—Nembili, Kudamareddy, Agarem, Velandai, Atthipakkam, Kallari Veraiyur, Arudapattai, Chettypalaiyam, Odayanthulu and Mathur and in all of them the people seemed eager to hear about Ceylon and notices were read with great interest.

In Velandai unfortunately I found the people being driven off by the land owners and heads of the families to their daily work in the fields where they were reaping paddy. As most of them were women, however, it did not matter so much and I had besides a small independent audience of men. About the usual wages were paid here 3 or 4 annas worth of paddy. The villagers were not given much chance to listen but notices were taken readily.

In all the other villages along this route I am sure recruiting would be excellent. The people were always interested in what I had to say and eagerly asked questions about the notices. At Atthipakkam a little Muhammadan took a great interest in the Tamil notice and as he could not read Tamil quickly himself he enlisted the services of a friend of his who read it very well. The little man then proceeded to ask me numerous questions and gave a lecture to the crowd on each of my answers. As a rule I do not care to encourage Muhammadans as they are generally only getting information in order to do professional recruiting on their own account, but this man was quite open and really very helpful. One or two of the crowd showed themselves

ling to come with me at once and I thereupon had to plain matters a little more. In the village of Kallari, ne four miles from Tiruvannamalai, the only person could find who could read at all was a little girl of about or 12 who came running up to me when I stopped the stor. She succeeded in reading out the notice to the hering fairly clearly and I immediately had to hand out eral more of them to people who said that they came m different villages. The girl told me that she be- gged to a Christian family and had been educated at the ssion school in Tirukoilur and her mother at the back the crowd proudly added that she had two daughters the school. The people in all these villages were a little re alive and intelligent than usual, perhaps be- ase they are not far from the railway line, but they emed a sober and industrious lot, unspoiled by this ximity to the line. The report that coolies are avail- le here is undoubtedly an accurate one.

The following morning I did a very successful circular p of 40 miles from Tiruvannamalai to Thandrampet, m there across to the Chengam road at Kottaikulam and ck to Tiruvannamalai, passing through the following lages:—Rathavaram, Sirpakkam, Thullukuttipalayam, thanur, Soorpananthai and Konakuttai.

At the village of Sirupakkam I was able to check a adast and as far as this village there seemed to be a cer- in amount of business done and the people looked more :less civilized, but from here to Thandrampet and across Kottaikulam the country began to get wilder and no- dy had ever heard anything about Ceylon. In each lage that I passed through I was the centre of an ad- iring and interested crowd who listened attentively to at I had to say and read the notices seriously. Ap- arently nobody from Ceylon had ever before visited these orts.

In an estate register one finds the names of villages any miles from the railway; yet whenever I leave the ilway line or any main road I nearly always find that eylon is scarcely known at all to the villagers even by me. This, however, is probably not the case farther

south and, of course, most coolies in Ceylon still come from the Southern districts. I believe my trip on this occasion to have been an exceedingly useful one and I am sure that anyone following it up will find things greatly smoothed out for him. I certainly distributed enough notices to spread well over the country. There were no villages on the way back along the Chengam road until one approach Tiruvannamalai, most of this part of the road running through forest.

In the afternoon I arranged for my samon to go to Katpadi by the train leaving Tiruvannamalai at 4-29 and left myself by road intending to catch the train at a station farther up the line as I wanted to check a Yadast in a village on this road. I passed through and advertised in the villages of Vengialu, Muniantharsathiram, Puthur Malavady, Karianthulu, Kalasapakkam and Kurimalai and just succeeded in catching the train at Polur at 6 o'clock by the nearest thing possible. I had a puncture in my back tyre about 1½ miles out of Polur and had to push to the station from there as there was not time to mend it. The people in the village along this road were also quiet and respectable except in Kalasapakkam where the railway seems to have introduced the vices of civili- zation. Puthur Malavady was a newly founded village of Christians. There were only about a dozen houses and judging from the people's faces there seemed really only two separate families in the village. The people spoke Vadugu amongst themselves and were probably Sakkiliyar, but when you ask a native Christian what caste he is he answers "Christian" and then wonders why you are not satisfied.

I arrived at Katpadi at 9-30 p.m. As I wished to speak to the Katpadi Agent I remained there until the following morning and arrived in Headquarters at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 29rd.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,

Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY & JUNE, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
Salem	Salem	Moderate in places where there is well water for irrigation.	4	2	Poor	Coolies are available in places (please vide my reports) but in and around Salem Town, most of the labour available at present is being utilised by the D. P. W. There is labour to be had in some of the outlying villages and hamlets, if recruited properly.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY & JUNE, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
Salem	Omair	Bad in one half and moderate in the other.	4	2	Fair	This Taluk depends mostly on rain for cultivation purposes. About a third of the Taluk is irrigated by wells and small tanks. As rain has been very scarce this year everywhere the crops in the areas dependent on rain, have practically failed altogether. Under these circumstances, there is labour to be had, but an ingrained fear of the Kangany largely exists. If a batch can be induced to go and can be given every facility, when over in Ceylon for communicating with their relations, and thus advertise their good treatment, a great many coolies will be willing to emigrate from this Taluk.
Salem	Trichengode	Moderate	4	2	Poor	Most of the population of this Taluk are Vellalas or genuine Agriculturists. Most of the villages belong to Mittadars who pay their labourers about Rs. 4-00 per month. Very little recruiting is done in this Taluk, as the Recruiters fear the influence of the Mittadars, who discourage emigration. Europeans, however, camping here and establishing a connection, would be very likely to secure some good labour.
Salem	Uttangarai	Bad	4	2	Very fair	Most of the people of this Taluk are very keen on emigration, but a considerably large number have gone to Penang, as a great many Penang coolies have returned with their pockets bulging and have thereby advertised that place and have made it attractive to others. Ceylon Kanganyes have a bad name and those who have gone from this Taluk, have not written or returned which has caused dissatisfaction.
Salem	Hosur	Moderate.	4	2	Very fair	This Taluk contains a mixture of Canarese and Tamils, both of whom can speak either tongue. The inhabitants are robust but cannot stand a very hot climate. A very large number have emigrated to Penang, as Ceylon has not yet been properly advertised. There are practically no Ceylon Recruiters working in this Taluk and unfortunately the few coolies who went to Ceylon from here, died, which has somewhat alarmed the people. Ceylon has made no impression on the people here, as no one has come here from Ceylon with any money.
Salem	Krishnagiri	Moderate.	4	2	Very fair.	The same remarks apply to this Taluk as to Hosur, which borders on it.
Salem	Dharmapuri	Very Poor for want of rain.	4	2	Fair	The advent of two large feasts interfere at present with recruiting prospects, but as soon as these are over, coolies will be more inclined to emigrate. A certain amount of dissatisfaction exists amongst the coolie classes of this Taluk, as those who have gone to Ceylon have not communicated with their relations.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY & JUNE, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.	Attur	... Cholan and Ragi fair, Cumbu good.	In Atur and surroundings 4	3	Moderate	There were two days rain in April which have brightened up the young crops a little. The class of cooly obtained in this Taluk, is good, but a very much larger number are going to Penang and the Straits on account of the high wages paid there, and the Kanganies working in this jurisdiction go from village to village for recruiting purposes, but find that they cannot get labour on this account. The agricultural season is almost over.
Salem			In other villages. 3	2		
Chinnopoly	Namakal	... Bad. Cholan harvest approaches in some parts, but will be bad.	2 to 3	1 to 2½	Very fair.	Scarcity of rain and lack of water is being keenly felt everywhere. Certain food grains, depending on well irrigation, have already failed and others are failing. Food is dear and very little work for the labourer exists. Notices are being freely distributed in every village. Recruiting prospects will undoubtedly be good.
Chinnopoly	Musiri	... Paddy is being harvested.	4 to 6 in Towns.	2½ to 3 in Towns.	Very fair.	
	Kulitalai	...	3 to 5 in Villages.	2 to 3 in Villages.		It is expected that the recruiting figures of these Taluks will be about the same as last year. A large number of coolies are emigrating to Penang on account of the high wages paid there. It is said that Kanganies pay enormous rates per head for genuine coolies, which amount in some cases to as much as from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 per cooly.
	Perambalore	... Cotton crop is in fair condition.	Children from 1½ to 2½ ans., in both Towns and Villages.			
North Arcot...	Tirupathur	... Moderate	5	3	Moderate	Plague has lately completely closed the Towns of Tirupathur and Jolarpet, and the inhabitants are only just returning to their homes from the outlying villages. Coolies are not at present available in any number but recruiting prospects will probably be a little brighter later on. Kuppam Agency is not frequented very much by Kanganies as many of them do not yet appear to be aware of its existence.
	Jolarpet	... Bad	3	1½	do	
	Kuppam	... Moderate	5	2½	do	
	Bangalore	... Moderate	6	2½	Moderate	There is a little labour available in this Taluk, but they have unfortunately already received a bad impression of Ceylon from the Kanganies' system of recruiting.
	Bowringpet	... do	4	2½	Bad	
	Closepet	... Moderate	5	2½	Bad	The same remarks as for Bowringpet.
	Chennapatnam	... Good	6	3	Moderate	
	Thodbillapuram	... Fair	4½	2	do	
	Kunigall	... Moderate	3½	2	Bad	
ysore	Bedithi	... Fair	4	2½	Moderate	
	Hindupur	... do	4½	3	do	
	Nanjangud	Crops have all been harvested, Cholan is being sown in some parts and most of the crops are poor.	5	3	Fair	There is a good amount of labour available but most of the coolies go regularly to the Nilgiri Estates and are rather afraid of emigrating as far as Ceylon. Rain has been very scarce and water is badly needed everywhere.
	Chamarajana-gar					
	Gundlupet					
	Yedatorai					

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
Salem Circle.
28th April, 1914.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY & JUNE, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks	
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.			
Headquarter Circle.							
Trichinopoly	(Manuparai Agency)	Not in a fair condition.					
	Kulitalai ...	Scarcity of water is felt in surrounding villages.	4	3	Good		
Tanjore	(Tanjore Agency)						
	Arantangi ...						
	Kumbakonam ...						
	Mannargudi ...						
	Mayaveram ...						
	Nannilam ...	Fair	6	4	Fair		
	Negapatam ...						
	Papanasam ...						
	Pattukottai ...						
	Shiyali ...						
	Tanjore ...						
	Tiruthuraipoondi						
Puducottah State.	(Ammapatnam Agency)						
	Pattukottai ...						
	Arantangi ...	Fair	5 to 6	2½ to 3	Good		
	Alangudi ...	Fair	4½	3½	do	Harvest is now over in these taluks and coolies have now begun to go to Ceylon. Recruiting prospects in the first taluk are good.	
	Thirumayam ...	do	5	4	Poor		
	Kolathur ...	do	4½	3½	do		
	Ramnad	(Mandapam Agency.)					
		Sathur ...					
		Sirivilliputur ...	Harvest is now over.				
		Ramnad ...	Outturn fair.	4	3	Very good	All tanks are dried up. People are expecting rain to plough their lands.
Kamudi ...							
Rasimangalam ...							
Mudukolatur ...							
Kannangudi ...							
(Tondi Agency.)							
Tiruvadani ...							
Tirupatur ...	Harvest is over.	4 to 6	3 to 4	Very good			
Sivaganga ...							
Paramakudi ...							
Tinnevely	(Tinnevely & Tataparai Agencies.)						
	Tenkasi ...	Good	5	3			
	Ambasamudram ...	do	5	3			
	Tinnevely ...	do	5	3½			
	Nanguneri ...	Not good	4½	3		Recruiting prospects are not good owing to the late outbreak of plague in Colombo. The inoculation scare is now reported to be decreasing in the villages.	
	Srivaikundam ...	Good	5	3			
	Tiruchendur ...	Fair	5	3			
	Koilpatti ...	do	5	4			
	Sankaranainarkoil ...	do	4	3			
Karur Agency.							
Trichinopoly and Coimbatore.	(Karur Agency) Dharapuram and Karur Taluks.	Bad	4 to 5	2½ to 3	Not good.	Kanganies are not very successful in recruiting up to date this year, a slight improvement may be expected during the next two months.	

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY & JUNE.

District	Talqug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
arur Agency.						
Simbatore ...	(Erode Agency)					
	Palladam ...					
	Bhavani ...					
	Gobichetty-palayam ...					
	Avanashi ...	Bad	5 to 6	3 to 4	Not good	A light improvement may be expected in May and June.
	P. Dharapuram					
	Satiamangalam					
	Udamalpet ...					
Alabar ...	Pollaohi ...					
	Kollegal ...					
	(Palghat Agency)					
	Walawanad ...					
	Ponani ...	No cultivation going on.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Not Good	Coolies will be engaged in preparing the ground for paddy in May and June.
	Ernad ...					
Madura ...	Kurumbanad ...					
	Calicut ...					
	Kottayam ...					
	(Dindigul Agency)					
Madura ...	Palany ...	Fair	4 to 6	2 to 3	Fair	Coolies will be available in May and June as there will be very little work going on.
	(Madura Agency)					
	Maloor ...					
	Periakulam ...					
	Nelakottai ...					
	Thirumangalam	Crops are fair.	4 to 6	2 to 3	Good	There is a great shortage of water in the Madura District, and a good number of coolies are going from this Agency to Ceylon daily.
	Ramnad ...					
	Tiruppuvanam...					
Chittoor ...	Tirupatur ...					
	Sivaganga ...					
	Mana Madura...					
	Chittoor ...	Paddy poor, ragi and cholam indifferent Sugarcane is progressing.	2 to 3	2	Fair	
	Kalahastry ...	do	do	do	do	
	Karvetnagar ...	do	do	do	Indifferent	
Chittoor ...	Palamanair ...	Paddy indifferent, ragi poor.	do	do	do	
	Punganur ...	do	do	do	do	
	Chendragiri ...	do	do	do	Fair	
	Vayalpad ...	do	do	do	do	
	Madanapalli ...	do	do	do	do	

G. S. DUPEN,

Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner,

Chittoor Circle.

Chittoor ...	Chittoor ...	Paddy poor, ragi and cholam indifferent Sugarcane is progressing.	2 to 3	2	Fair
	Kalahastry ...	do	do	do	do
	Karvetnagar ...	do	do	do	Indifferent
	Palamanair ...	Paddy indifferent, ragi poor.	do	do	do
	Punganur ...	do	do	do	do
	Chendragiri ...	do	do	do	Fair
Chittoor ...	Vayalpad ...	do	do	do	do
	Madanapalli ...	do	do	do	do

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY & JUNE, 1914.

District.	Taluka.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
Tamil Districts.			Annas.	Annas.		
North Arcot	Arcot	... Paddy, ragi, and cholam good	4	2	Fair	
	Gudiyatam	... Paddy, ragi, cholam, and sessamun good.	do	do	do	
	Walaja Vellore	... do	do	do	do	
		... Paddy, ragi, cholam sessamun and tobacco good.	do	do	do	
	Polur	... Paddy, ragi, cholam and tobacco good.	do	do	do	
	Arni	... Paddy, ragi & cholam good.	do	do	do	
	Wandiwash	... do	do	do	do	
	Arkonam	... Karu and Manakathay paddy harvest good.	4 to 5	5 to 3	do	
	Cheyar	... do	do	do	Good	
	Chingleput	Tiruvellore	... Ragi transplanting good.	do	do	do
Chingleput	Ponneri	... Karu and manakathay Paddy harvest good, ragi transplanting good.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	
Chittoor	Putthur	... Paddy harvest good.	do	do	Good	
Chingleput	Chingleput	... Ragi, cholam fair.	5	4	Fair	
	Conjeeveram	... Ragi, cumbu fair.	do	5	do	
	Madurantakam	Groundnuts fair.	4	3 to 4	do	
	Saidapet	... Cumbu and cholam fair.	6	4	do	
	Villupuram	... Ragi harvest is over, groundnut is finished, lands are ploughing for sowing cumbu.	5	do	do	
	Cuddalore	... Paddy and sugarcane is in progress.	do	do	do	
	Chidambaram	... Well cultivation is very poor owing to heavy flood.	do	do	do	
	Vriddachalam	... do	do	do	do	
	Kallakurchi	... Tobacco, cholam, ragi and cumbu good.	do	do	do	
	Tindivauam	... Ragi harvest is over, groundnut is finished, lands are ploughing for sowing cumbu.	do	do	do	
South Arcot	Tiruvanamam	... do	do	do	do	
	Tirukoilur	... do	do	do	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY & JUNE, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.	
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.			
Telugu Districts.							
Cuddapah ...	Cuddapah ...	Harvest fini- shed.	6	3	Good		
	Jammalamadugu	do	8	4	Bad		
Telugu Circle.							
Cuddapah ...	Proddatur ...	Harvesting finished.	8	4	Bad		
	Badvel ...	do	3	2	Good		
	Sidhout ...	do	do	do	do		
	Pullampet ...	do	do	do	do		
	Royachoty ...	do	do	do	do		
	Pulivendla ...	do	do	do	Bad		
	Kamalapuram ...	do	do	do	Good		
Nellore ...	Nellore ...	Paddy nearly ripe.	5	3	Indifferent		
	Darsi ...	Young paddy good.	2½	1½	do		
	Podili ...	do	3	2	do		
	Kanigiri ...	do	2½	do	do		
	Kandukur ...	do	do	1½	do		
	Udagiri ...	do	2	do	do		
	Kavali ...	do	4	2½	do		
	Athmakur ...	Paddy nearly ripe.	3	1½	do		
	Kovoor ...	do	4	2½	do		
	Rapur ...	do	2	1½	do		
	Gudur ...	do	4 to 5	2½	do		
	Vengatakiri ...	do	3½	2	do		
	Soolurpet ...	do	4	2½	do		
	Guntur ...	Guntur ...	Cumbu, cho- lam, redgram, castor and cotton.	4	3	Good	
		Vinukonda ...	do	do	do	do	
Narasarawpet ...		do	do	do	do		
Satnapalli ...		do	do	do	do		
Bapatla ...		Paddy	do	do	do		
Tenali ...		do	do	do	do		
Anantapur ...	Anantapur ...	Cholam and ragi good.	5	3	Moderate		
	Dharmavaram ...	do	4	2	do		
	Kadari ...	Cumbu and cholam good.	do	do	Bad		
Bellary ...	Bellary ...	Cumbu and cholam poor.	5	2½	Moderate		
	Uruvakonda ...	do	4	2	Bad		
	Royadrug ...	Paddy and ragi good.	5	2½	Moderate		
	Hospet ...	do	do	do	do		
Anantapur ...	Adony ...	do	4½	2½	do		
	Gooty ...	Cumbu and cholam good.	4	1½	Moderate		
	Tadpatry ...	do	5	2½	Bad		
	Kalliyandrug ...	Cholam excel- lent.	4½	do	do		
Kurnool ...	Kurnool ...	Paddy excel- lent.	5	2½	Moderate		
	Nandial ...	Cotton harvest good.	do	do	do		
	Dhone ...	do	do	do	do		

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Commissioner.

List showing the total Number of A Forms received from January to April, 1913, and from January to April, 1914.

1913.				1914.			
January	...	...	1,317	January	...	...	1,474
February	...	...	2,158	February	...	...	1,902
March	...	...	4,099	March	...	...	2,582
April	...	...	3,643	April	...	...	3,305
			<u>11,217</u>				<u>9,263</u>

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched from each Agency during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.
Telugu Circle.								
Guntakal	... 1912	...	6	16	22	4	26	7
"	... 1913	...	76	31	107	81	188	96
"	... 1914	...	22	29	51	22	73	35
Cuddapah	... 1912	...	4	11	15	22	37	2
"	... 1913	...	15	2	17	13	30	20
"	... 1914	...	12	33	45	...	45	20
Guntur	... 1912	...	...	63	63	8	71	155
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	...
"	... 1914	...	2	2	4	6	10	7
Nellore	... 1912	...	9	...	9	18	27	2
"	... 1913	...	17	25	42	52	94	9
"	... 1914	...	7	...	7	7	14	4
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	16	16	10	...
Madras (Trans- porting Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arcot Circle.								
Katpadi	... 1912	...	216	257	473	140	613	177
"	... 1913	...	252	231	483	150	633	245
"	... 1914	...	102	140	242	171	413	199
Arkonam	... 1912	...	201	67	268	56	324	154
"	... 1913	...	87	112	199	78	277	164
"	... 1914	...	114	69	183	61	244	144
Chingleput	... 1912	...	120	105	225	136	361	305
"	... 1913	...	99	132	231	223	454	424
"	... 1914	...	55	78	133	107	240	154
Villupuram	... 1912	...	118	156	274	266	540	325
"	... 1913	...	166	177	343	328	671	388
"	... 1914	...	118	140	258	167	425	312

dem Circle.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.
anjanagud	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40
"	1914	...	...	...	15	40	17	57
harniapuri	1912	19	6	25	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	36	71	30	101
"	1914	9	25	34	9	43	25	68
upnam	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	5	16	21	2	23	9	32
irapatur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71
"	1914	6	6	12	...	12	...	12
detto	1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777
"	1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623
"	1914	42	71	113	122	235	168	403

dem Circle.

Atur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	3	26	29	48	77	138
"	1914	...	21	21	42	42	84	107
amakai	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	18	15	33	58	91	146
"	1914	...	23	41	64	55	119	286
iraiyur	1912	...	5	32	37	6	43	28
"	1913	...	5	27	32	49	81	79
"	1914	...	16	5	21	51	72	31
usiri	1912	...	3	15	18	29	47	39
"	1913	...	20	4	24	8	32	132
"	1914	...	13	2	15	19	34	73
ourpet (Trans- porting Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

headquarter Circle.

annanore	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	2	2	15	9
"	1914	...	85	18	53	27	80	59
alghat	1912	...	36	66	102	56	158	62
"	1913	...	84	90	174	71	245	41
"	1914	...	38	89	127	65	192	83
rode	1912	...	134	135	269	144	413	224
"	1913	...	145	187	332	262	594	211
"	1914	...	50	106	156	121	277	162
arur	1912	...	46	67	113	83	196	118
"	1913	...	64	71	135	61	196	147
"	1914	...	30	83	113	73	186	106
richinopoly	1912	...	740	1036	1776	1556	3332	3276
"	1913	...	994	1261	2195	1453	3648	4081
"	1914	...	740	796	1536	1371	2907	2747
anaparai	1912	...	111	103	214	185	344	129
"	1913	...	224	141	365	171	536	308
"	1914	...	28	25	53	69	122	79
indigul	1912	...	75	90	165	139	304	242
"	1913	...	168	154	322	178	500	263
"	1914	...	140	125	265	149	414	165
anjore	1912	...	42	94	136	165	301	231
"	1913	...	109	146	255	149	404	192
"	1914	...	111	175	286	252	538	316
mmapatnam	1912	...	8	54	62	60	122	119
"	1913	...	43	43	86	49	135	130
"	1914	...	35	20	55	29	84	17
nducottah	1912	...	89	108	197	121	318	166
"	1913	...	56	111	167	65	232	228
"	1914	...	44	96	140	122	262	230

adura Circle.

adura	1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1178
"	1913	...	...	...	220	162	382	149	531	421	952
"	1914	...	...	...	293	246	539	438	977	557	1534

Agencies.	Years.			Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.
Madura Circle. *										
Mandapam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	128	128	382	510
Tinnevely	... 1912	...	...	94	122	216	136	352	174	526
"	... 1913	...	...	121	88	209	147	356	238	594
"	... 1914	...	...	133	108	241	113	354	112	466
Tataparai	... 1912	...	...	256	191	447	312	759	265	1024
"	... 1913	...	...	267	352	619	433	1052	761	1813
"	... 1914	...	...	122	161	283	157	440	180	620
Tuticorin (For-...	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" warding...	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Agency)	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	... 1912	...	...	109	177	286	134	420	329	749
"	... 1913	...	...	111	109	220	129	349	215	564
"	... 1914	...	...	111	56	167	44	211	30	241
Pamban	... 1912	...	...	8	14	22	89	111	20	131
"	... 1913	...	...	11	17	28	75	103	43	146
"	... 1914	...	...	48	10	58	closed	58	...	58

Closed Agencies.

Coconada	... 1912	...	...	..	19	19	10	29	29	58
"	... 1913	...	...	6	15	21	37	58	closed	58
"	... 1914	...	...	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	... 1912	...	...	89	24	113	13	126	closed	126
"	... 1913	...	...	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	... 1912	...	...	23	17	40	14	54	37	91
"	... 1913	...	...	22	29	51	18	69	14	83
"	... 1914	...	...	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	... 1912	...	...	...	27	27	12	39	31	70
"	... 1913	...	...	19	25	44	2	46	closed	46
"	... 1914	...	...	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	6	5	11	10	21	closed	21
"	... 1914	...	...	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	... 1912	...	...	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710	7365	18075
"	... 1913	...	...	3491	3911	7402	4837	12239	9328	21567
"	... 1914	...	...	2544	2798	5342	4030	9372	6623	15995

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO THE COAST AGENCY.

ESTATE.	POST TOWN.	ESTATE.	POST TOWN.
A.			
Abbotsford	D 2 Nanuoya	Akramboda Group (comprising Ricardia, Millrig, Tilbrick, and Mahawatte)	E 89 Matale
Abbotsleigh	C 132 Hatton	Alan (inc. in Delwita Group)	Kurunegalla
Abercairney (inc. in Hornsey)	C 169 Dickoya	Alapalawa (inc. Parambe Group)	Z 94 Undugoda
Aberdeen	C 133 Watawala	Albion	D 7 Agrapatna
Abergeldie (inc. Heatherton)	C 134 Rozella	Aldie	C 80 Bogawantalawa
Aboyne	B 17 Bentota	Allagalla (inc. Barnagalla)	C 216 Nawalapitiya
Acrawatte	C 40 Kotmalie	Allagalla and Dekande	C 50 Kadugannawa
Adam's Peak	C 398 Maskeliya	Allagolla	W 3 Udupussellawa
Adwaatte	W 1 Lunugalla	Allakolla	C 365 Madulkelle
Agra	D 3 Lindula	Allacollawewe (inc. Gonapitiya Group)	D 172 Maturata
Agrakande	D 4 Lindula	Alliawattie	W 228 Moneragalla
Agra Elbedde	D 5 Agrapatna	Alloowiharie Group	E 58 Matale
Agra Ouwah	D 6 Agrapatna	Alluta (inc. Coodoogalla)	C 306 Kadugannawa
Agra Oya	C 1 Hatton	Alma (inc. Greymont and Lean-gawella	D 192 Maturata
Agratenne	W 172 Badulla	Alnwick	D 255 Udupussellawa
Agrawatte	C 135 Watawala	Alpitakande	C 281 Gampola
Aigburth	Y 52 Rakwan *	Alpha Group	Y 66 Balangoda
		Alton	C 399 Norwood
		Aludeniya	Z 182 Dehiowita

ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.	ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.
Alupolla and Hopewell	Y	16 Ratnapura	Balmoral	D	11 Agrapatna
Ambadeniya	Z	99 Aranayake	Bambrakelly	D	12 Lindula
Ambana	A	92 Mirigama	Bambrella (inc. in Kuncles Group)		
Ambanganga	E	26 Matale	Bandara Eliya (inc. in Dambe-		
Ambanpitiya	Z	5 Kegalle	tenne Group)	W	80 Haputale
Ambawella	W	2 Ambawella	Bandarapola	E	47 Matale
Ambena	E	120 Gammaduwa	Baracple (see Westhall Gp.)		
Ambatenne	B	40 Neboda	Bargany and Fairlawn	E	431 Maskeliya
Ambalakande	Z	13 Aranayake	Bargrove (inc. Glenugie)	C	406 Maskeliya
Amblamana	C	317 Galaha	Barnagalla (inc. Allagalla)	C	216 Nawalapitiya
Amblangoda	W	169 Lunugalla	Barton	C	307 Ukuwella
Amherst and Kadawatte	D	256 Udapussellawa	Batalagoda	R	40 Kurunegala
Ampitigodde	W	49 Bandarawella	Batgodde	W	12 Haldumulla
Ampittiakande W 52 & Arnhall	W	53 Bandarawella	Bathford	C	137 Dickoya
Ancoombra Group (inc. Maravilla and Ugalla)	C	320 Matale	Battagalla (inc. in Knuckles Group)		
Angodde (inc. Cobo)	C	27 Badulla	Battalgalle	C	138 Dickoya
Angroowella	C	244 Taldeniya	Battawatta	W	175 Madulsima
Ankande	E	67 Matale	Beaconsfield	C	401 Norwood
Annandale	C	400 Maskeliya	Bearwell	D	13 Talawakelle
Annasigalla (See St. George's Group)			Beaumont	C	490 Pussellawa
Anfield	C	136 Dickoya	Beau Sejour	K	55 Nakiadeniya
Anniawatte	C	318 Kandy	Beauvais	W	13 Haputale
Anningkande	M	8 Deniyaya	Beddewelle	Z	127 Kadugannawa
Arambehena	B	89 Kaluwella	Belgravia	D	14 Talawakelle
Aranayaka	Z	138 Aranayake	Bellair	A	76 Puwakpitiya
Arandara	Z	103 Kegalle	Bellongalla	C	54 Kadugannawa
Arapolakande	B	60 Tebuwana	Bellwood	C	114 Galaha
Ardlaw	D	135 Agarapatna	Beltoff (inc. Norfolk)	C	55 Kadugannawa
Ardrass	Z	71 Yatiyantota	Belton	D	15 Kotmale
Argill (see Harrington)	D	56 Kotagala	Benachie	C	5 Watawala
Arstenne	C	366 Madulkelle	Bentota	K	27 Elpitiya
Arslena	C	3 Nawalapitiya	Benveula Group (inc. Malvern, Benreula and Kuruwilla)	C	266 Wattagama
Ascot	C	488 Gampola	Berat	C	139 Dickoya
Ashbourne	C	2 Nawalapitiya	Beranawa	Z	135 Doloshage
Aspokunuwatte (inc. Delwita Group)	R	8	Berragalla	W	14 Haputale
Atale	Z	100 Ruanwella	Berryhill	Z	145 Yatiyantota
Atalawa	Z	151 Ruanwella	Beverley	M	2 Deniyaya
Atgalla	C	51 Gampola	Bibile	W	41 Lunugalla
Atherfield	A	47 Avisawella	Binoya	C	7 Rozella
Atherton	C	4 Kotmale	Bitterne (inc. Gangawatta)	C	402 Maskeliya
Attabagie	C	489 Gampola	Blackwater	C	8 Nawalapitiya
Attampittia	W	91 Bandarawella	Blackwood	W	35 Haputale
Atuwagala	K	1 Elpitiya	Blair Athol	C	140 Dickoya
Auchry	E	86 Matale	Blairavon	C	403 Norwood
Augusta	C	321 Peradeniya	Blair Lomond	W	225 Udapussellawa
Avington	Z	77 Yatiyantota	Blinkbonnie	C	142 Dickoya
Avisawella	A	33 Puwakpitiya	Bogahagodawatte	K	2 Bentota
Avoca	D	10 Nanuoya	Bogawatte	D	16 Kotagala
Ayagama	Y	38 Ratnapura	Bogawane	C	82 Bogawantalawa
Ayr	A	56 Padukka	Bogawantalawa	C	83 Bogawantalawa
			Bollagalla	C	323 Kandy
			Bombra		Urugalla
			Bon Accord	C	84 Bogawantalawa
			Bopittia	C	115 Deltota
			Bossella (inc. in Parambe Group)	Z	16 Undugoda
			Bowhill	C	6 Nawalapitiya
			Bowlana Gp.	C	116 Deltota
			Brae Group	E	8 Madulkelle
			Braemore	D	17 Agrapatna
			Braeside (inc. Tembiligalla)	C	528 Ulapane
			Bramley	D	173 Maturata
			Branghing	W	165 Welimada
			Bray	W	17 Ohiya
			Bridgend		Nawalapitiya
			Bridwell	C	85 Bogawantalaw
			Broadlands see Rondura Group		

B.

Badahelgoda (inc. in Keragalla)	Y	6 Kuruwita
Baddegama	K	48 Madulkelle
Badulla Factory (inc. in Rockhill)	W	21 Badulla
Badugama	B	93 Matugama
Baharundrab (see Westhall Gp.)		
Balantota	C	18 Nawalapitiya
Ballacalua	E	24 Matale
Ballagalla	W	92 Badulla
Ballagalla Ella	W	79 Bandarawella
Balangoda Group (inc. Maratenne Y 75, Detenagalla Y 70), Cecilton Y 83, and Pambagalla Y 72)	Y	81 Balangoda

ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.	ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.
Broad Oak (inc. Lethenty Group)	C 143	Hatton	Cranley, Upper and Lower	D 29	Lindula
Brookside	D 257	Brookside	Cruden, Lower	C 462	Norwood
Broughton	W 81	Bandarawella	Culhorn (see Westhall Group)		
Brownlow	C 408	Maskeliya	Cuicagh	B 86	Kudaganga R. O.
Brunswick	C 410	Maskeliya	Cullen	Z 98	Badulla
Bunyan and Ovoca	C 409	Maskeliya	Culloden	B 53	Neboda
Burnside Gp.	C 535	Udispattu	Cwm, The	D 26	Talawakelle
C.			D.		
Cabrgalla	C 392	Madulkelle	Daigalla	Z 160	Ruanwella
Caledonia	D 18	Lindula	Daisy Valley	R 13	Kurunegala
Callander	W 18	Ohiya	Dalhousie	C 417	Maskeliya
Calsay	D 19	Nanuoya	Dalkeith Group	B 79	Matugama
Camnethan (inc. Weddemulla)	D 238	Ramboda	Dalleagles (inc. in Cattarem)	C 217	Dolosbagie
Campden Hill	M 3	Deniyaya	Dalveen and Hatherleigh	Y 42	Rakwana
Campion	C 86	Bogawantalawa	Dambagalla	D 171	Ulapane
Cannavarella (inc. in Namunukula Tea Est. Co. Ltd.)	W 99	Namunukula	Dambagastalawa	D 31	Nanuoya
Carfax	C 146	Hatton	Dambattenne Group (inc. Mahadambattenne, Bandara Eliya and Maousakelle)	W 36	Haputale
Carlabeck	D 20	Nanuoya	Damblagolla	Z 61	Undugoda
Carney	Y 3	Ratnapura	Dambulugalla (see Pitakande Gp.)		
Carolina No. 1	C 9	Watawala	Dammeria Group (inc. Mahattenne, Vellongalla, and Tillicairn)	W 105	Passara
Carolina No. 2	C 144	Watawala	Danawakande	A 25	Heneratgoda
Castle Milk	C 472	Gampola	Dangan	E 17	Matale
Castlereagh	C 145	Dickoya	Dangan, Lower	E 104	Matale
Caton (inc. in Gammaduwa Group)	E 42	Gammaduwa	Dangkande	E 31	Rattota
Cattaratenne	E 72	Rattota	Darrawella	C 150	Dickoya
Cattarem and Dalleagles	C 217	Dolosbagie	Dawatakelle (inc. in Knuckles Group)		
Cecilton (inc. in Balangoda Group)	Y 83	Bogawantalawa	Deaculla	W 60	Koslande
Chapelton	C 87	Bogawantalawa	Dea Ella	C 312	Galagedera
Chesterford	Z 68	Ruanwella	Deanstone	C 537	Rangalla
Choisy	D 240	Punduloya	Debatgama	Z 57	Aranayake
Choughleigh (inc. in New Peacock)	C 532	Pussellawa	Dedugalla	Z 78	Dolosbagie
Chrystler's Farm	D 21	Kotagala	Deemaya Group	W 59	Koslande
Citrus and Kurulugalla	K 39	Akmimana	Deeside	D 418	Maskeliya
Clara	A 73	Avissawella	Degalessa	Z 93	Yatiantota
Clarendon	D 22	Nanuoya	Dehigolla	C 540	Rangalla
Claverton (inc. in Lethenty Group)	C 148	Hatton	Dehiowita	Z 97	Dehiowita
Cleveland	C 413	Maskeliya	Dekanda (inc. Allagolla)	C 50	Kadugannawa
Cley	B 104	Neboda	Dela and Kiribatgala	Y 92	Ratnapura
Clodagh	E 27	Matale	Delgahalande	C 246	Wattegama
Clontarf	B 48	Neboda	Delhena	R 3	Matale
Clunes	Z 42	Dehiowita	Dell	D 32	Lindula
Clyde	B 32	Kalutara	Delmar	D 259	Udapussellawa
Cobo Group (inc. Angodde and Kotakelle)	W 27	Badulla	Deloluwa	Z 155	Dehiowita
Cocagalla	W 177	Madulsima	Delta	C 496	Pussellawa
Cocoawatte	W 176	Lunugala	Deltotte	C 117	Galaha
Coldstream	C 11	Hatton	Delwella	Y 1	Ratnapura
Columbia (inc. in Rahatungoda Tea Co., Ltd.)	D 141	Hewaheta	Delwita Group (inc. Alan and Aspokunuwatte)	R 8	Kurunegalla
Concordia	D 258	Kandapolla	Demodera Group (inc. Weywel-hena W 106, Octumba, Papol-gashena, Rossett, Ingurugama and Southam W 69)	W 106	Demodera
Condegalla	D 239	Ramboda	Denigama	Y 69	Bogawantalawa
Conning	E 95	Matale	Deniston	B 70	Matugama
Conon (inc. Kowlahena)	D 67	Lindula	Deniyaya	M 10	Deniyaya
Coodoogalla and Alluta	C 56	Rambukkana	Denmark	C 325	Ulapane
Coolbawn	C 10	Nawalapitiya	Densworth	Z 72	Dehiowita
Coombewood	D 25	Talawakelle	Depedene	Y 31	Rakwana
Cooroondoowatta	C 220	Gampola	Derryclare	D 34	Kotagala
Coreen	D 26	Talawakelle	Dessford	D 33	Nanuoya
Cottaganga	C 536	Rangalla	Detenagalla (inc. in Balangoda Group)	Y 70	Bogawantalawa
Court Lodge	D 197	Kandapolla	Deviturai	K 66	Elpitiya
Craig	W 82	Bandarawella			
Craighead	C 218	Nawalapitiya			
Craigie Lea	D 27	Kotagala			
Craigingilt	C 343	Matale			

ESTATE.		POST	TOWN.	ESTATE.		POST	TOWN.
Devon	D	35	Talawakelle	Eildon Hall	D	42	Lindula
Devonford	C	88	Bogawantalawa	Ekkerale	Y	97	Openaike R. O., Pelmadulla
Dawalakande	Z	41	Dehiowita		C	422	Maskeliya
Deyanilla	C	393	Madulkelle	Ekolsund	C	157	Norwood
Deyanagalla	W	11	Badulla	Elbedde	Y	41	Rakwana
Dikapittia	W	58	Haputale	El Chico	C	423	Watawala
Dickella	Z	102	Kegalle	Elfindale	D	43	Lindula
Dicklande	B	13	Matugama	Elgin and Kelly Hill	E	56	Elkadua
Dickoya	C	151	Dickoya	Elkadua	W	33	Bandarawella
Dickwella	W	100	Badulla	Elladaluwa	B	38	Paiyagalla
Digalla	Z	51	Dehiowita	Elladuwa	E	49	Rattota
Digalla and Diyaberiakande (inc. in Neboda Group)	B	65	Neboda	Ellagalla	B	5	Horana
Digdola	K	57	Nakiadeniya	Ellakande	D	175	Maturata
Digowa	Z	153	Dehiowita	Ellamulle and Wellekelle	W	112	Bandarawella
Dikbedde	B	123	Paiyagalla	Ellawatte	W	108	Badulla
Dimbula	D	38	Kotagala	Elmhurst	A	37	Puwakpitiya
Diwella	Z	173	Kegalle	Elston	W	184	Passara
Diyagama	D	37	Agrapatna	El Teb	C	89	Bogawantalawa
Diyanilakele	D	36	Lindula	Eltofts	C	421	Maskeliya
Dodantalawa	R	44	Weuda R. O., Ku- runegala	Emelina	B	129	Ingiriya
				Epping Forest Group			
Doloswella Group	Y	96	Ratnapura	Eriagastenne (inc. in Goonambil Group)	C	254	Wattegama
Donachie (inc. in Gonapitiya Gp.)	D	174	Maturata	Erin	C	328	Galaha
Donnybrook	C	154	Hatton	Erismere	C	188	Dickoya
Doolgalla	Z	110	Undugoda	Ernan	Z	48	Dehiowita
Doombagastalawa	D	156	Kotmale	Erracht	Z	45	Dehiowita
Doone Vale	K	56	Nakiadeniya	Erroll	C	156	Hatton
Doonhinda	W	180	Madulsima	Eskdale	D	261	Kandapolla
Dooroomadella (inc. Mousakande)	E	36	Matale	Etambawella	E	94	Matale
Dooragalla	C	498	Pussellawa	Etana	Z	166	Ambepusse
Doranakande	A	48	Puakpitiya	Etnawala	Z	130	Ambepusse
Dorset	B	103	Kalutara	Eton	D	218	Punduloya
Dotala	C	419	Maskeliya	Ettapolla	E	83	Matale
Doteloya	Z	65	Dolosbagie	Ettie	Z	96	Kegalla
Dutlands (inc. in Sarina Group)				Ettrick	W	119	Haldumulla
Dover	Z	93	Yatiyantota		F.		
Downside	W	178	Welimada				
Drayton	D	39	Kotagala	Fairfield	D	44	Lindula
Dromoland	E	46	Gammaduwa	Fairfield	Y	30	Awisawella
Duckwari	C	539	Rangalla	Fairlawn (inc. Bargany)	C	431	Maskeliya
Duhallow	Y	14	Ratnapura	Faithlie	D	136	Kotagala
Dullewa	E	93	Dullewa	Farnham	A	38	Awisawella
Dumbara	Y	36	Ingiriya	Ferham	D	47	Talawakelle
Dunally	C	327	Galaha	Ferndale	Y	79	Balangoda
Dunbar	C	152	Hatton	Fernlands	D	219	Punduloya
Dunedin	Z	98	Yatiyantota	Ferrihy	A	35	Puwakpitiya
Dunkeld	C	153	Dickoya	Fetteresso	C	90	Bogawantalawa
Dunnottar	C	420	Maskeliya	Fettes (inc. in Labanon Group.)			Paiyagalla
Dunsinane	D	217	Punduloya	Finzean			
Durampitiya	Y	89	Awisawella	Florence (see Rondura Group)			
Dyraaba			Bandarawella	Fordyce Group (inc. Garbawn, Gonagalla, and Parawatta)	C	158	Dickoya
	E.			Forest Hill (inc. in Kensington)	E	37	Matale
Edella	R	38	Polgahawella	Forres	C	426	Maskeliya
Eagle's Land (inc. Glenrhos Gp.)	B	45	Neboda	Freshwater	D	48	Nawalapitiya
East Gourakelle (inc. in Namunu- kula Tea Estate Co., Ltd.)	W	110	Namunukula	Friedland and St. Vigeans	C	91	Bogawantalawa
East Holyrood	D	61	Talawakelle	Frocester	B	87	Neboda
Eastland	D	151	Hewabeta	Protoft	D	241	Ramboda
Ederapolla	Z	70	Yatiyantota	Fruit Hill	C	159	Hatton
Edinburgh	D	41	Nanuoya		G.		
Eduvagalla	B	6	Horana				
Edward Hill	C	288	Pussellawa	Galaha	C	331	Galaha
Eheliyagoda	Z	106	Kendangamuwa via Awisawella	Galapitikande	W	117	Namunukula
				Galata	C	500	Gampola
				Galatura Group	Y	33	Ratnapura

ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.
Iathdaraganga	Y 21	Ratnapura
Iathmatte	Z 90	Ruanwella
Iattangalla	B 61	Neboda
Iatton	C 167	Hatton
Iauteville	D 57	Agrapatna
Iavilland	Z 14	Dolosbagie
Iaves	Y 56	Deniyaya
Iatherleigh and Dalveen	Y 42	Rakwana
Ieatherley	B 39	Neboda
Ieatherton (inc. Abergeldie)	C 168	Hatton
Ieidri	C 66	Rozelle
Ielbeck and Torrington	D 119	Agrapatna
Iellbodde	D 233	Pussellawa
Iemmingford	Z 62	Parakaduwa
Ienfold and St. Relugas	D 58	Dimbula
Iiralouvah	Y 73	Haldumulla
Iethersett	D 199	Kandapola
Iewagam	A 83	Padukka
Iiggoda	Z 118	Undugoda
Iigh Forest	D 180	Maturata
Iigh Walton : C/o Alloowiharie	E 103	Matale
Iillside	K 41	Galle
Iindugalla and Shrubs Hill	C 333	Peradeniya
Iindugalla and Ravenswood	W 121	Badulla
Iingarakadua	W 25	Passara
Iingurugama	W 113	Badulla
Iinweralla	Z 146	Mawanella, Kadu- gannawa
Iolbrook	D 59	Lindula
Iollingbourne	B 109	Bentota
Iolmwood	D 60	Agrapatna
Iolnicot and Imboolpitiya	C 20	Nawalapitiya
Iolton (inc. in Galphele Group)	C 255	Wattegama
Ioniton	A 45	Avisawella
Ioolankande (inc. in Hooloo Group)		
Iooloo Group (inc. Poongalla, Hoolankande and Kirigal- potakande)	C 394	Madulkelle
Ioonocotus	D 170	Kotmale
Iope	D 143	Hewaheta
Iopewell (inc. Alupolla Group)	Y 63	Ratnapura
Iopton	W 188	Lunugala
Ioragalla	C 16	Dolosbagie
Ioragoda	B 3	Matugama
Ioranakande	Z 134	Alawwa
Iorawala	B 59	Matugama
Iornsey (inc. Abercainey)	C 169	Dickoya
Ioupe	Y 90	Pelmadulla
Iuluganga	C 373	Madulkelle
Iumbaswalana	Z 168	Ruanwella
Iunasgeria Group (inc. Mahaoya, Upper and Lower Hunasgeria)	C 371	Wattegama
Iunugalla (inc. Golinda Group)	Z 60	Undugoda
Iunugalla	E 61	Elkaduwa
Iunuwella	Y 51	Pelmadulla
Iylton	E 18	Matale
Iyndford	C 17	Nawalapitiya

I.

Igalkande	K 4	Elpitiya
Illubulluwa	Y 88	Ratnapura
Ilwana	Z 188	Undugoda
Iimboolpitiya and Holnicot	C 20	Nawalapitiya
Iinchestelly (inc. in Goonambil Group)	C 254	Wattegama
Iinchyra and Templestowe	C 197	Rozella
IIndian Walk	K 60	Nakiadeniya

ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.
Indurana	Z 84	Ruanwella
Ingestre	C 170	Dickoya
Ingoya	Z 31	Watawala
Ingurugalla	C 238	Aranayake
Ingurugama (inc. in Demodera Group)	W 69	Demodera
Invery	C 171	Dickoya
Iona	D 63	Agrapatna
Ireby	C 172	Norwood
Ivies	Z 69	Yatiantota

J.-K.

Jambulande Group	A 30	Kosgama
Kabragalla	D 181	Maturata
Kadawella	C 21	Watawella
Kadawatte and Amherst	D 256	Udapussellawa
Kadien Lena	C 22	Kotmale
Kaduwela	E 87	Ukuwella
Kabagalla	W 43	Haputale
Kahawatte	E 80	Matale
Kaipooagalla	D 221	Punduloya
Kalooagalla	C 506	Pussellawa
Kalugama	C 479	Peradeniya
Kalupahana	B 16	Horana
Kalupahane	W 23	Haldumulla
Kalupane		Undugoda
Kanangama	Z 55	Dehiowita
Kanana	B 26	Bentota
Kanapediwattie	C 507	Ulapane
Kandahena	W 126	Namunukula
Kandaloya	Z 19	Dolosbagie
Kandapolla	D 200	Kandapola
Kandenewera	E 6	Matale
Kanantota	Z 165	Ruanwella
Karagahatenne	E 35	Gammadua
Karandana	Y 3	Avisawella
Karandupona	Z 59	Kegalle
Karangalla (see Nalande Group.)		
Karawita	Y 103	Ratnapura
Kataboola	C 40	Kotmale
Katandola	K 7	Elpitiya
Katooloya	C 377	Madulkelle
Katugastota	C 336	Katugastota
Keenagaha Ella	Y 74	Balangoda
Keenakelle	W 122	Badulla
Keenapitiya	W 62	Koslande
Keheiwatte	W 191	Lunugala
Kalibokka	C 379	Madulkelle
Kelaneiya	C 437	Maskeliya
Kelani	Z 1	Yatiantota
Kelburne	W 39	Haputale
Kellie Group	Z 16	Dolosbagie
Kelliewatte	D 65	Kotagala
Kelly Hill and Elgin	D 43	Lindula
Kelvin	Z 15	Dolosbagie
Kempitiya (inc. in Hatbawa Grp.)		
Kensington and Forest Hill	E 39	Matale
Kent	E 73	Matale
Kepitigalla	C 340	Matale
Keragalla (inc. Badahelgoda)	Y 6	Kuruwita
Kew	C 92	Norwood
Killarney	C 93	Bogawantalawa
Kincora	C 435	Norwood
Kinloch	C 173	Dickoya
Kinnersley	B 84	Kudaganga R. O., Neboda
Kinrara (see Pitakande Group.)		
Kinross	W 123	Bandarawella
Kintyre	C 436	Maskeliya

ESTATE.		POST TOWN.	ESTATE.		POST TOWN.
Kirantidiya	B	121 Paiyagalla	Laxapanagalla	C	441 Watawela
Kiribatgalla and Dela	Y	92 Ratnapura	Leangahawella	W	84 Haputale
Kirigalpota (inc. in Hooloo Gp.)	C	394 Madulkelle	Leangapella	C	549 Rangalla
Kirimetiya, New	C	338 Galaha	Leangawella (inc. Alma)		Maturata
Kerimettia	C	60 Kadugannawa	Leangolla (inc. in Lebanon Gp.)		
Kiriporuwa	Z	22 Yatiyantota	Lebanon Group (inc. Middleton, Leangolla, Ratnagherry, Fettes)	C	381 Madulkelle
Kiriwanaketiya	B	78 Neboda	Ledgerwatte (inc. Narangalla), Lenawehera	W	128 Badulla
Kirklees	W	7 Udupussellawa	Lethenty Group (inc. Marlborough, Claverton, and Broad Oak),	R	76 Kurunegala
Kirkoswald	C	94 Bogawantalawa	Le Vallon Group	C	175 Hatton
Kitoolamula	C	341 Galaha	Liddesdale	C	476 Galaha
Kituldeniya	C	339 Handessa	Lindoodale	D	266 Halgranoya
Kitulgala and Gonagama	Z	75 Kitulgalla	Lindoola	D	71 Talawakelle
Kitulwitigalla	K	17 Elpitiya	Lippakelle	D	72 Lindula
Knavesmaire	Z	9 Undugoda	Little Valley	C	123 Deltotte
Knightsdal (inc. Longford)	C	375 Wattegama	Lochnagar	E	13 Matale
Knuckles Gp. (inc. Bambrella, Dawatakelle, Battagalla, Moragahagalla, and Hagalla.	C	378 Madulkelle	Logie	D	73 Talawakelle
Kobonella	C	547 Rangalla	Loinorn	C	96 Bogawantalawa
Kobowella	B	110 Horana	Lonach	C	176 Watawela
Kolapatana	D	163 Kotmalie	Longford and Knightsdale	Y	58 Wattegama
Kondesalle	C	258 Kandy	Longville	E	28 Rattote
Korossa	R	7 Polgabawela	Loolecondara	C	122 Deltotte
Kosgalla	Y	80 Ratnapura	Looleowatte (see Hare Park)		Rangalla
Koslanda	W	56 Koslanda	Lowmont	B	83 Kalutara
Koswana	E	78 Kaikawala R. O., Matale	Luceombe	C	442 Maskeliya
Kotakelle (inc. in Cobo Gp.)	W	27 Badulla	Lucky Land	W	8 Uda Pussellawa
Kotiyagalla	C	95 Bogawantalawa	Lynapitiya	E	88 Gammaduwa
Kottagallakelle	D	66 Hatton	Lyndhurst	Z	36 Avisawella
Kottagodde	C	73 Peradeniya	Lynford	C	97 Bogawantalawa
Kotunnagalla	Z	116 Avisawella	Lynsted	C	98 Bogawantalawa
Kotuagedera	E	62 Matale			
Kowlahena and Conon	D	67 Lindula			
Kuduganga Rubber Estate	B	98 Neboda			
Kuda Oya	C	174 Hatton			
Kumbukkan	W	88 Moneragalla			
Kumaradola	W	211 Moneragalla			
Kurulugalla (inc. in Citrus Gp.)	M	4 Galle			
Kurugama	C	61 Peradeniya			
Kuruwilla (see Benveula Gp.)					
L.					
Labookelle	D	243 Ramboda	Mabopitiya (inc. in Parambe Gp.)	Z	7 Undugoda
Labugama	A	57 Waga	Macaldenia	W	67 Koslande
Lachesis (inc. in Moneragalla Gp.)	W	144 Moneragalla, Haputale, R.S.	Macduff	D	75 Lindula
Ladbroke Grove & Nottinghill.)	R	18 Kurunegalla	Madampe	Y	43 Rakwana
Ladbroke	C	43 Maskeliya	Madawella	E	86 Matale
Lagalla	E	76 Rattota	Maddagedara	B	37 Bentota
Lagos	B	136 Kalutara	Maddakelle	C	384 Madulkelle
Laksahena	E	69 Matale	Maddebedde	E	122 Medamulla, Kurunegalle
Lammermoor	C	465 Watawela	Madola	B	80 Neboda
Lanark	Y	40 Rakwana	Madulkelle	C	383 Madulkelle
Landscape	B	90 Matugama	Mahaberiatenne	C	261 Teldeniya
Lansdowne	Y	95 Ratnapura	Mahacoodoogalla	D	185 Brookside
Langdale	D	70 Nanuoya	Mahadova	W	197 Madulsima
Lanka	C	439 Maskeliya	Maha Eliya	D	76 Nanuoya
Lantern Hill	C	292 Gampola	Mahagalla	C	443 Norwood
Lassahena	Z	136 Debiowita	Mahagastotte	D	202 Nuwara Eliya
Lauderdale	Y	57 Rakwana	Mahagoda	B	76 Bentota
Laukka	Z	3 Mawanella, Kadugannawa	Mahakande (inc. in Maria-bedde)	W	68 Koslande
Lauriston	D	184 Maturata	Maha Nilu	C	449 Norwood
Lavant	Z	26 Yatiyantota	Mahaousa	C	382 Madulkelle
Laxapana	C	440 Maskeliya	Maha Oya (see Walpola Gp.)		
			Maha Oya (see Hunasgeria Gp.)		
			Maharaja	E	100 Matale
			Mahatenne	E	4 Elkaduwa
			Mahatenne (inc. in Dammeria Gp.)	W	105 Passara
			Maha Uva	D	267 Halgranoya
			Mahavilla	C	531 Ulapane
			Mahawale	Y	10 Ratnapura
			Mahawatte (inc. in Akrambode Gp.)	E	89 Matale

ESTATE.		POST	TOWN.	ESTATE.		POST	TOWN.
Malaboda	B	8	Matugama	Mincing Lane	C	446	Maskeliya
Maldeniya	Z	95	Dehiowita	Minna	C	447	Norwood
Maliboda	Z	186	Kuruwita	Mipitiakande	Z	23	Yatiyantota
Malvern	C	266	Wattegama	Maragalla (see Moneragalla Gp.)			
Malwasawa	Z	124	Dehiowita	Mirishena	B	72	Kudaganga R. O., Neboda
Manapolakande	Z	154	Dehiowita	Mirisketiya	C	550	Urugalla
Mandara Nuwara	D	186	Kandapola	Miriswatta	W	89	Koslande
Mandolagirikanda	C	374	Wattegama	Miriswatta	B	118	Matugama
Manikande	Z	139	Parakaduwa	Mocha	C	448	Maskeliya
Maousakelle	C	124	Deltota	Monaragala Gp. (inc. Walton, Lachesis, Maragalla, and Mone- ragalla)	W	219	Monaragala
Maousakelle (inc. Dambattenne Gp.)	W	57	Haputale	Moneragalla	C	510	Pussellawa
Maousava	C	313	Galagedera	Monerakande Gp. (inc. Laymos- totte, Nahakettia and Upper Lyegrove)	W	72	Koslanda
Mapalagama	K	22	Mapalagama	Monerakelle and Sirigalla	W	214	Moneragalla
Mapitigama Gp.	Z	80	Avisawella	Monrovia	K	6	Dodanduwa
Marakona	C	344	Ukuwella	Monte Christo	C	229	Nawalapitiya
Marambekande	Y	62	Avisawella	Moolgama	C	477	Galaha
Maratenne (inc. Balangoda Gp.)	Y	75	Balangoda	Mooloya (inc. in Moragahagalla, Knuckles Gp.)	D	145	Hewaheta
Maravilla (inc. Ancoombra Gp.)	C	320	Matale	Moragalla	W	130	Badulla
Maria	D	77	Lindula	Morahela	Y	76	Balangoda
Mariawatte	C	293	Gampola	Mora Ella (inc. Raxawa)	C	269	Wattegama
Marie's land	C	397	Madulkelle	Morahoya	Z	35	Ruanwella
Marigold	D	188	Maturata	Morankaunde	C	314	Galagedera
Markville	Z	105	Undugoda	Morar	C	99	Bogawantalawa
Marlborough (inc. in Lethenty Gp.)	C	177	Hatton	Morantenne	E	86	Matale
Marton	B	120	Neboda	Moray Group	C	450	Maskeliya
Maryland	Z	79-90	Aranayake	Mornington	D	83	Agrapatna
Maskeliya	C	444	Maskeliya	Mortlake (inc. in Gonakelle Gp.)	W	120	Passara
Maskeloya	R	50	Dolosbagie	Mossend	D	84	Agrapatna
Massena	Y	65	Balangoda	Mossville Gp.	C	228	Dolosbagie
Matale	E	64	Matale	Mottingham	C	451	Maskeliya
Matale West	E	19	Matale	Mount Pleasant	C	346	Peradeniya
Mattakelle	D	78	Talawakelle	Mount Prospect	C	512	Gampola
Matugama (see St. George's Gp.)				Mount Prospect (inc. in Hat- bawa Gp.)			
Maturata	D	189	Kandapolla	Mount Temple	C	297	Gampola
Mayfair	Z	149	Ambepusse	Mount Vernon	D	85	Kotagala
Mayfield	D	79	Hatton	Mousa Ella	D	86	Lindula
Maymolly	C	511	Pussellawa	Mousagalla	E	29	Matale
Medahinna	Y	71	Bogawantalawa	Mousagalla (see Namunukula Tea Co.)	W	131	Namunukula
Meddakande	Y	64	Balangoda	Mousakande and Dooroomadella	E	43	Matale
Meddecombra	D	80	Watagoda	Mousakellie	C	452	Maskeliya
Meddegama, New (inc. Maousa- kelle)	C	124	Deltota	Mousava	C	313	Galagedera
Meddetenne	D	222	Punduloya	Mowbray	C	348	Peradeniya
Meddegoda	C	295	Udahentenne	Mudamana	Z	30	Kitulgala
Meegahawella	Z	187	Avisawella	Munangala	Y	15	Kendangamuwa
Meegama	B	100	Neboda	Murraythwaite	B	108	Padukka
Meegama	C	264	Wattegama	Mutwagala	Y	34	Ratnapura
Meegastenne	E	22	Matale	Muvankande	R	16	Kurunegala
Meenagolla	C	222	Dolosbagie				
Meepilawa	A	45	Puwakpitiya				
Meerabadde	W	70	Koslande				
Meeria Cotta	C	445	Maskeliya				
Melfort	C	509	Pussellawa				
Melton	D	81	Lindula				
Mentenne (inc. Wiharettenne)	W	40	Haputale				
Middlemarch	C	345	Kandy				
Middleton (inc. in Lebanon Gp.)							
Middleton and Talankande	D	82	Lindula	Nabethong	E	117	Matale
Midlands	E	32	Rattota	Nagahatenne	K	29	Elpitiya
Midlothian	C	453	Maskeliya	Nagalla	E	52	Gammadua
Millakande	B	85	Kudaganga R. O., Neboda	Nahakettia (inc. in Monerakande Gp.)			
Millawana	E	92	Matale	Nahaima	Z	81	Dehiowita
Millawa	B	74	Padukka	Nahaveena	Y	45	Kakwana
Milligatenne	Z	79 & 90	Aranayake	Nahavillia	W	136	Demodera
Millrig (inc. in Akramboda Gp.)	E	106	Matale	Nalande Group (inc. Karangalla, and Tillyfour)	E	110	Matale

ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.	ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.
Namunukula Tea Estates Co., Ltd. (inc. Mousagalla, Cannavarella, East Gourakelli and Namunukula)	W 137	Namunukula	Oodewelle	C 351	Kandy
Napier	W 134	Demodera	Oodoowerre	W 161	Demodera
Narangalla (and Ledgerwatte)	C 135	Badulla	Oolanakande	C 50	Kadugannawa
Narangalla	Z 79	Aranayake	Oonankande	Z 74	Dolosbagie
Narangoda	Y 4	Pelmadulla	Oonoogaloya	D 164	Kotmalie
Narthupana (see Neboda Group)			Oonoonagalla	C 318	Madulkelle
Naseby	D 203	Nuwara Eliya	Opalagalla	C 53	Gammaduwa
Nawanagalla	C 551	Rangalla	Opata	Y 44	Pelmadulla
Nayabedde	W 85	Bandarawella	Orange Hill	A 19	Ragama
Nayapane and Harmony	C 502	Pussellawa	Orion	C 299	Gampola
Neboda Group and Polgahakande (comprising Neboda, Digalla, Narthupana, Polgahakande, Diyaberiakande)	B 65	Neboda	Ormidale	C 455	Maskeliya
Needwood	W 26	Haldumulla	Orwell Group	C 303	Gampola
Nella Oolla	R 72	Weuda	Osborne	C 182	Hatton
Neuchatel	B 25	Anguruatota	Ottery	C 183	Dickoya
Newburgh	W 138	Bandarawella	Ouvahkellie	D 90	Lindula
New Forest	C 478	Galaha	Owilikande	E 21	Matale
New Hunasgeria (see Hunasgeria Gp.)					
New Peacock and Choughleigh	C 515	Gampola	Padukka	B 10	Padukka
New Peradeniya	C 349	Peradeniya	Paiyagala	B 114	Kalutara
Newton	C 178	Dickoya	Palamcotta	Y 47	Rakwana
New Valley	C 179	Norwood	Paladeniya	Z 158	Yatiyantota
Nichola Oya	E 34	Rattota	Pallegoda and St. Columbkille	B 36	Bentota
Nikakotua	E 11	Matale	Pallawella	Y 35	Ratnapura
Nikatenne (inc. in Galphele Gp.)	C 255	Wattegama	Pallegama	Z 112	Ambeputsa
Nilagama	Y 46	Pelmadulla	Pallekelle	C 267	Kandy
Nilambe	C 479	Galaha	Palmerston	D 91	Talawakelle
Nilloomally	C 385	Madulkelle	Palmgarden	Y 11	Ratnapura
Ninfield	Z 44	Dehiowita	Palugampola (inc. in Rilhena Group)	Y 53	Pelmadulla
Nivitigalla Gp. (inc. Parawatte and Peenakanda)	Y 91	Ratnapura	Pambagama	Z 63	Dehiowita
Niyadurapola	Z 113	Ambeputsa	Pambagolla (inc. in Balangoda Group)	Y 72	Balangoda
Nonpareil	Y 77	Obiya	Panana	Z 137	Kegalle
Norfolk and Beltoff	C 55	Kadugannawa	Panagula	A 77	Wagga
North Cove	C 100	Bogawantalawa	Panawatte	Z 25	Yatiyantota
Northlands	Z 125	Ambeputsa	Pangalla	R 79	Kurunegala
North Matale	E 15	Matale	Panilkanda	Y 60	Deniyaya
North Punduloya	D 223	Punduloya	Panmure	C 184	Hatton
Northumberland	A 36	Puwakpitiya	Pansalatenne	E 23	Matale
Norton	C 180	Hatton	Pantiya	B 43	Neboda
Norwood	C 181	Norwood	Papolgashena (inc. in Demodera Group)	W 69	Demodera
Nottingham and Ladbroke Grove	R 68	Kurunegala	Para	Z 114	Yatiyantota
Nugagalla	C 552	Urugala	Paradise	Y 12	Ratnapura
Nugahena	C 65	Peradeniya	Paramatta (inc. in Fordyce Group)	C 158	Dickoya
Nugahena	Z 148	Kendangamua	Parambe Group	Z 94	Undugoda
Nugawella	D 234	Ulapane	Paraviila	B 140	Moneragalla
Nutbourne	D 88	Ambawella	Parawatte	W 229	Matale
Nyanza	C 454	Maskeliya	Park	D 205	Kandapolla
			Parragalla	C 239	Nawalapitiya
			Parusella	Z 45	Yatiyantota
			Passara (inc. in Gonakelle Group)	W 120	Passara
			Passara Group	W 145	Passara
			Pathregalla	R 34	Potuhera
			Pati Rajah	K 31	Elpitiya
			Patirade	D 36	Galagedera
			Patiyagama	C 127	Deltota
			Peacock Hill	C 516	Gampola
			Pedro	D 206	Nuwara Eliya
			Pelmadulla	Y 86	Pelmadulla
			Pembroke	B 101	Kalutara
			Penrhos	C 30	Galboda
			Penrith	A 39	Puwakpitiya
			Penylan	C 230	Dolosbagie
			Peradeniya	C 352	Peradeniya
			Peria Wavatenne	W 73	Bandarawella
			Perth	B 12	Horana

O.

Oakfield	W 74	Koslande
Oaklands	Z 27	Yatiyantota
Oakwell	W 226	Haldumulla
Oddington	D 89	Talawakelle
Octumbe (inc. in Demodera Group)	W 69	Demodera
Obiya	W 28	Obiya
Old Haloya	C 474	Peradeniya
Old Meddegama	C 125	Galaha
Old Pitiagalla	Y 59	Balangoda
Oliphant	D 204	Nuwara Eliya

P.

Padukka	B 10	Padukka
Paiyagala	B 114	Kalutara
Palamcotta	Y 47	Rakwana
Paladeniya	Z 158	Yatiyantota
Pallegoda and St. Columbkille	B 36	Bentota
Pallawella	Y 35	Ratnapura
Pallegama	Z 112	Ambeputsa
Pallekelle	C 267	Kandy
Palmerston	D 91	Talawakelle
Palmgarden	Y 11	Ratnapura
Palugampola (inc. in Rilhena Group)	Y 53	Pelmadulla
Pambagama	Z 63	Dehiowita
Pambagolla (inc. in Balangoda Group)	Y 72	Balangoda
Panana	Z 137	Kegalle
Panagula	A 77	Wagga
Panawatte	Z 25	Yatiyantota
Pangalla	R 79	Kurunegala
Panilkanda	Y 60	Deniyaya
Panmure	C 184	Hatton
Pansalatenne	E 23	Matale
Pantiya	B 43	Neboda
Papolgashena (inc. in Demodera Group)	W 69	Demodera
Para	Z 114	Yatiyantota
Paradise	Y 12	Ratnapura
Paramatta (inc. in Fordyce Group)	C 158	Dickoya
Parambe Group	Z 94	Undugoda
Paraviila	B 140	Moneragalla
Parawatte	W 229	Matale
Park	D 205	Kandapolla
Parragalla	C 239	Nawalapitiya
Parusella	Z 45	Yatiyantota
Passara (inc. in Gonakelle Group)	W 120	Passara
Passara Group	W 145	Passara
Pathregalla	R 34	Potuhera
Pati Rajah	K 31	Elpitiya
Patirade	D 36	Galagedera
Patiyagama	C 127	Deltota
Peacock Hill	C 516	Gampola
Pedro	D 206	Nuwara Eliya
Pelmadulla	Y 86	Pelmadulla
Pembroke	B 101	Kalutara
Penrhos	C 30	Galboda
Penrith	A 39	Puwakpitiya
Penylan	C 230	Dolosbagie
Peradeniya	C 352	Peradeniya
Peria Wavatenne	W 73	Bandarawella
Perth	B 12	Horana

ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.
Peru	C 553	Rangalla
Piccadilly	Z 108	Ruanwella
Piliagoda Valley	K 33	Baddegama
Pimbura	B 19	Matugama
Pendeni Oya	Z 6	Ruanwella
Pine Hill and Waveheena	D 237	Pundukoya
Pingarawa	W 143	Namunukula
Pittakanda Group	R 15	Kurunegala
Pitakanda Group (inc. in Dambulgalla, Sylvakande, and Kinrara)	E 44	Matale
Pita Ratmalie	W 45	Haputale
Polugalla (inc. in Hooloo Group)	C 394	Madulkelle
Polatagama	Z 21	Yatiantota
Polgahakanda (inc. in Neboda Group)	B 81	Neboda
Polwatte	E 20	Matale
Pondappe	Z 79 & 90	Aranayake
Poolbank	C 185	Hatton
Poonagalla Group	W 75	Bandarawella
Poorasie Group (inc. in Torrington, Gingranella, and Hanagalla)	C 518	Pussellawa
Portree	C 186	Norwood
Portmore	D 92	Agrapatna
Portswood	D 207	Kandapolla
Powys Land	D 93	Agrapatna
Punugalla (inc. in Halgolla Gp.)	Z 115	Avisawella
Pussella	C 480	Gampola
Pussetenne (inc. Templeland)	B 64	Neboda
Putupaula		

Q.

Queenwood	D 96	Lindula
Queensberry	D 165	Kotmalie
Queensland	C 457	Maskeliya
Queenstown	W 97	Badulla

R.

Radella	D 97	Nanuoya
Ragalla	D 269	Halgranoaya
Rahanwatte	D 98	Lindula
Rahatungoda Tea Co., Ltd. (inc. Rahatungoda, Columbia and Riverdale Estates)	D 146	Hewaheta
Rajjamaana	E 118	Matale
Rambukkanda	Y 19	Ratnapura
Ranawalla	C 70	Gampola
Rangalla (inc. Ranwella)	C 554	Rangalla
Ranghodde	D 247	Ramboda
Ranwella (see Rangalla Estate)		Rangalla
Rappahannock	D 270	Udapussellawa
Rasagalla	Y 80	Balangoda
Ratganga	Y 23	Ratnapura
Ratmalana Group	A 63	Mt. Lavinia
Ratnagherry (inc. in Lebanon Group)		
Ratnatenne	C 388.	Madulkelle
Ratwatte	E 50	Ukuwella
Ravensraig	D 166	Nawalapitiya
Ravenswood (inc. Hindagalla)	W 121	Badulla
Raxawa	W 216	Moneragalla
Raxawa (inc. Mora Ella)	C 269	Wattegama
Raxawa	C 232	Nawalapitiya
Rayigam	B 15	Padukka

ESTATE.	POST	TOWN.
Redigama	R 4	Kurunegala
Relugas	C 387	Madulkelle
Remune	B 134	Horana
Reucastle	Z 52	Dehiowita
Rickardia (inc. in Akramboda Group)	E 89	Matale
Rickarton	C 458	Maskeliya
Rilhena (inc. Palugampola)	Y 50	Pelmadulla
Rillamulle	D 190	Maturata
Ritnageria	D 99	Talawakelle
Riverdale (inc. in Rahatungoda Tea Co., Ltd.)	D 146	Hewaheta
Riverside	C 520	Nawalapitiya
Robgill	C 101	Bogawantalawa
Rockhill (inc. in Badulla Factory)	W 147	Badulla
Rocklands	D 30	Udapussellawa
Roeberry	W 202	Madulsima
Roehampton	W 46	Haputale
Rogart (inc. Glendon)	B 52	Neboda
Rondura Gp. (inc. Broadlands, and Florence)	C 31	Watawala
Rookatenne	W 148	Badulla
Rookwood	D 147	Hewaheta
Roscrea	C 188	Dickoya
Rosebury	W 76	Koslande
Rosita	D 100	Kotagala
Ross	E 14	Matale
Rossett (inc. in Demodera Gp.)	W 69	Demodera
Rothschild	C 189	Pussellawa
Ruanwella	Z 33	Ruanwella
Rye	Y 100	Balangoda

S.

St. Aubins	C 149	Watawala
St. Andrew's	C 460	Maskeliya
St. Andrews	D 105	Talawakelle
St. Catherine	C 233	Dolosbagie
St. Clair Group	D 106	Talawakelle
St. Clive	C 32	Nawalapitiya
St. Columbkille and Pallegoda	B 36	Bentota
St. Coombs	D 107	Lindula
St. Fergus	Z 131	Polgahawella
St. George Group (inc. Matugama, and Annasigalla)	B 77	Matugama
St. George and Woodlake	D 108	Agrapatna
St. Helens	C 234	Dolosbagie
St. Heliers	C 192	Watawala
St. James's	W 156	Badulla
St. John Del Rey	C 190	Norwood
St. John's	D 272	Udapussellawa
St. John's Wood (inc. in Galphele Group)	C 255	Wattegama
St. Leonards	D 273	Halgranoaya
St. Leonard's-on-Sea	K 34	Elpitiya
St. Leys	C 191	Dickoya
St. Margaret's	D 274	Udapussellawa
St. Martins	C 556	Rangalla
St. Regulas (inc. Henfold)	D 138	Lindula
St. Valerian	B 115	Matugama
St. Vigeans (inc. Friedland)	C 102	Bogawantalawa
Salawa	A 50	Kosgama
Sandringham	D 102	Agrapatna
Sanguhar	C 300	Gampola
Sapumalkande	Z 67	Dehiowita
Sarnia Grp (inc. Dotlands)	W 152	Badulla
Scarborough	C 461	Maskeliya
Scrubs	D 209	Nawara Eliya

ESTATE,		POST TOWN.		ESTATE.		POST TOWN.	
Seaforth	Z	18	Dolosbagie	Taprobana	D	116	Kotagala
Seaton (see Alma)	D	191	Maturata	Tavalamtenne	D	248	Ramboda
Selegama	E	65	Matale	Telbedde (inc. Westmoreland)	W	158	Badulla
Selwawatte	Y	82	Balangoda	Tellisagalla (inc. Harangalla)	D	159	Kotmalie
Serendib	W	4	Badulla	Tellisford	Z	104	Kendangamuwa
Shakerley	R	6	Kurunegala	Tembiligalla	C	526	Ulapane
Shannon	C	196	Hatton	Temple Land (inc. Pussetenne)	C	480	Gampola
Shawlands	W	203	Lunugala	Templestowe and Inchyra	C	197	Rozella
Sheen	D	225	Punduloya	Tempo	B	66	Neboda
Sherwood (inc. Haputale)	W	47	Haputale	Theberton	C	35	Watawala
Shrubs Hill and Hindagalla	C	333	Peradeniya	The Farm	C	57	Kadugannawa
Silvakande	M	5	Deniyaya	The Park	W	199	Lunugalla
Silva Land	Y	18	Ratuapura	Theresia	C	104	Bogawantalawa
Silverkandy	D	271	Kandapolla	Theydon Bois	C	236	Nawalapitiya
Singarawatte	C	103	Bogawantalawa	Thornfield	D	117	Agrapatna
Singarawatte	W	96	Koslande	Thotulagalla	W	50	Haputale
Sinnapiittia	C	301	Gampola	Tientsin	C	105	Bogawantalawa
Sinna Golconda	W	48	Haputale	Tilbrick (inc. Akramboda Grp.)	E	89	Matale
Sirigalla (inc. Monerakelle)	W	217	Moneragalla	Tillicoultry	D	118	Lindula
Sirikandura	B	35	Neboda	Tillycairn (inc. in Demodera Grp.)	W	105	Passara
Sirisanda	A	34	Puwakpitiya	Tillyfour (inc. in Nalande Group)	E	110	Matale
Sirisena	Z	142	Yatiyantota	Tillyrie	C	106	Dickoya
Sirinidula	B	33	Kalutara (Serupita)	Tismoda	C	72	Kadugannawa
Sitawaka	Z	163	Avisawella	Tonacombe	W	159	Namunukula
Sogama	C	524	Pussellawa	Torrington (see Pooprassee Group)			
Somerset	D	104	Talawakelle	Torrington and Helbeck	D	119	Agrapatna
Somerset	C	302	Gampola	Trafalgar	B	27	Neboda
Sorana	B	7	Horana	Trafford Hill	C	310	Galagedera
Southam (inc. in Demodera Grp.)	W	69	Demodera	Troup	D	120	Talawakelle
South Punduloya	D	224	Punduloya	Troy	Z	34	Ruanwella
Spring Valley	W	154	Badulla	Tudugalla	B	58	Neboda
Springwood	Y	39	Rakwana	Tulloes	D	276	Udappussellawa
Stafford	D	275	Halgranoya	Tunisgalla	C	389	Rangalla
Stamford Hill	C	193	Dickoya	Tyspane	D	168	Kotmalie
Stellenberg	C	525	Pussellawa				
Stinsford	Z	38	Ruanwella				
Stockholm	C	462	Norwood				
Stokesland	K	61	Udugama				
Stonycliff	D	111	Kotagala	Udabage	Z	82	Yatiyantota
Stratheden	W	149	Demodera	Udagoda	Z	64	Undugoda
Strathdon	C	194	Hatton	Udapolla	Z	91	Polgahawella
Strathisla	E	57	Matale	Udapola	R	43	Dehiowita
Strathspey	C	463	Maskeliya	Uda Radella	D	121	Nanu Oya
Stubton	Y	49	Rakwana	Udapollakande	R	43	Polgahawella
Suduganga	E	25	Matale	Udasgeria	E	84	Ukuwella
Summer Hill (inc. Glen Devon)	D	208	Kandapolla	Udaveria	W	31	Ohiya
Summerville	C	195	Dickoya	Udugoda (inc. in Galphele Grp.)	C	255	Wattagama
Sunderland	Y	94	Ratuapura	Ugalla (inc. in Akramboda Grp.)	C	320	Matale
Sunnycroft	Z	39	Ruanwella	Ugieside	Z	83	Undugoda
Suriakande	C	464	Maskeliya	Ukuwela	E	1	Ukuwella
Sutton	D	112	Agrapatna	Ullswater	Z	85	Yatiyantota
Swinton	W	204	Lunugala	Unugalla	W	162	Badulla
Sylvakande (see Pitakande Grp.)				Upper Lyegrove (see Monerakande Grp.)			
Syston	C	335	Ukuwala	Uplands Tea Co. of Ceylon, Ltd. (see Gonapitiya Grp.)			
				Upper Hunasgeria (see Hunasgeria Grp.)			
				Urakande	Z	126	Kegalle
				Urumiwella	Z	88	Ruanwella
				Urumutta	M	22	Akuressa
				Ury (inc. Mahapahagalla)	W	163	Badulla
				Uva	W	205	Madulsima
				Uvakelle	W	206	Madulsima
				Vedehette	C	481	Galaha
				Velana	C	357	Ukuwella
				Vellai Oya	C	199	Hatton

[illegible]

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month ending April, 1914.

DETAIL.		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sqd. Q. M. Sergt.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Total.	Instructional Staff.	RANKS.
Regtl. Staff		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	1	1	1	3		
A. Squadron																											
Staff	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	23	26	27	...	...	...	...	...
„ II. „	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	5	...	...	...	...	...
„ III. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	17	20	21	...	...	...	...	...
„ IV. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	3	1	20	28	29	...	...	...	...	...
	TOTAL	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	5	5	1	64	81	86	...	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron																											
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	11	14	15	...	...	...	...	...
„ II. „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	10	10	...	...	...	...	...
„ III. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	17	20	21	...	...	...	...	...
„ IV. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	6	10	11	...	...	...	...	...
	TOTAL	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	4	1	3	43	57	62	1	1	1	3	...	
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	...	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	5	5	1	64	81	86	...	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	4	1	3	43	57	62	...	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	...	2	2	6	1	2	9	6	4	107	141	156	1	1	1	3	...	
Total Strength last Return	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	...	2	2	7	1	2	9	6	4	109	144	159	...	...	...	...	...
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Squads	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	3	...	
Wanting to Complete	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	1	...	2	5	...	...	4	2	4	77	93	96	...	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	1	1	2	6	...	10	1	1	1	1	...	8	...	...	2	1	...	30	45	55	...	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve	...	2	4	5	13	1	25	2	2	1	3	2	14	1	2	11	7	14	137	186	211	1	1	1	3	...	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adjt. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.

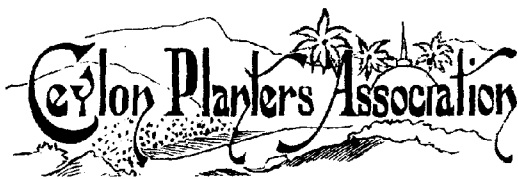
CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1914.

		VOLUNTEER STAFF.																
SECTION.		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Sergt.-Major.	Qr. M. Sergt.	Colour-Sergeant.	Sergeant.	Lance-Sergts. & Corpls.	Sergt.-Bugler.	Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.	
A.	Staff	1	1	2	4	
	Kelani Valley	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	36	43		
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	13		
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10		66
B.	Kandy	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	17	21		
	Matale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	11	14		
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	10	12		
	Rangalla	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	10	12		59
C.	Muttakelle	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	6	10		
	Agrapatna	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	8	11		
	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	10	12		
	Daraweila	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6		
D.	Maskeliya	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	12		
	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	7		5
	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	11	12		
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	9	11		
E.	Haputale	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	13		
	Badulla	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	15	19		
	Uda Pussellawa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	10		
	Batticaloa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	8	11		70
F.	Kalutara	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	22	26		
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	16	17		
	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	18	19		
	Morawak Korale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
G.	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	10	13		
	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	5		8
	Colombo	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	43	50		
	Ambegamuwa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	9	11		
H.	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	13	15		
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	11		37
	Colombo	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	45	56		56
	Motor Cycle Section	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	15	18		18
TOTAL STRENGTH 30-4-14		1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1		6	18	26	1	5	416	500	500
Strength by last Return		1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1		6	18	25	1	5	406	489	
Increase Since														1	10			
Decrease Since																		
* C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File									55	=	64	Increase					11	
Total Strength including Reserve									564			Reserve Decrease					1	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.



Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 8th May, 1914, at 1-30 p.m.

Present:—Mr. Hew Kennedy (Chairman, P.A. of Ceylon), the Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot (Kandy), Messrs W. de Lemos (Ramboda P.A.), F. H. Layard (Kandy), H. F. Laycock (Dickoya P.A.), W. R. Westland (Kandy), A. Hamilton Harding (Chairman, Dimbula P.A.), A. T. Sydney Smith (Dimbula P.A.), A. L. Baines (visitor), L. Bayly (Chairman, Kelani Valley P.A.), J. Farley Elford (Kelani Valley P.A.), Reg. Gatehouse (Chairman, Badulla P.A.), T. Y. Wright (K.K. and Panwila P.A.), C. B. Prettijohn (Chairman, Maskeliya P.A.), William Gibson (Haputale P.A.), Huntley Wilkinson (Hon. Secretary, Dimbula P.A.), J. Oiffner (visitor), L. C. Maudslay (Dimbula P.A.), C. Gooldin (Hon. Secretary, Maskeliya P.A.), W. H. Murray (Pussellawa P.A.), J. Hall Brown (Chairman, Rangalla P.A.), M. L. Wilkins (Ambegamuwa P.A.), J. B. Coles (Kandy), E. F. Home (Chairman, Kandy Districts P.A.), A. J. Stephens (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P.A.), H. A. Beachcroft (Kandy), R. W. Carmichael (visitor), R. T. Thornton (Hon. Secretary, Uda-Pussellawa P.A.), S. P. Blackmore (Ambegamuwa P.A.), C. W. Bovy Lysberg (Kotmale P.A.), A. J. Percy Wills (Chairman, Haputale P.A.), A. P. Jukes (Maskeliya P.A.), H. M. Picken (Chairman, Pussellawa P.A.), George Brown (Chairman, Sabaragamuwa P.A.), D. Finch Noyes (Maskeliya P.A.), C. C. Villiers (Hon. Secretary, Sabaragamuwa P.A.), N. J. Wilson Blackett (Ramboda P.A.), George Benzie (Pussellawa P.A.), G. Kent Deaker (Passara P.A.), L. St. G. Carey (Hewaheta P.A.), W. C. Hawkes (Chairman and Hon. Secretary, Hewaheta P.A.), A. S. Long Price (Kandy), G. A. Greig (visitor), J. G. Napier (K.K. and Panwila P.A.), C. J. Owen (Chairman, Uda-Pussellawa P.A.), O. Balean (Chairman, Ambegamuwa P.A.), C. Shelton Agar (visitor), H. D. Bartlett (visitor), H. Rohde (visitor), P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary, Pussellawa P.A.), C. Owen (Hon. Secretary, Punduloya P.A.), M. H. Reeves (Chairman, Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P.A.), J. L. Tancock (Kandy), Herbert Inglis (Kalutara P.A.), Edgar Turner (Colombo), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), H. S. Cameron (Chairman, Matale P.A.), H. D. Garrick (Matale P.A.), A. Thorp (Matale P.A.), H. Hopwood (Hon. Secretary, K.K. and Panwila P.A.), M. V. Clapham and John Still (Secretary, P.A. of Ceylon).—55 members and 6 visitors.

Notice calling the meeting was read. Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy on Friday, the 13th

May, 1914, were submitted for confirmation. Resolved:—“That they be and they hereby are confirmed.”

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. Henry L. Egan, J. R. Barkley, W. S. Neibecker, D. B. Williamson, H. Glyn Eccles, N. C. Rolt, Keith Rollo, M. S. Milne, J. F. W. Brockman, A. J. Dawson, A. A. Bowie, and G. H. Maschfield.

Resolved:—“That Messrs. J. Thomson Broom and W. N. Tisdall be elected members of this Committee.”

Resolved:—“That the Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot, at present one of Dickoya district representatives on this Committee, be elected as a member of the Kandy Committee.”

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Read the following letter from the Kandy Districts Planters' Association:—

Kandy District Planters' Association,
Kurugama, Peradeniya.

SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon, Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

I am instructed by the Committee of the above Association to forward the following resolution passed at the annual meeting:—

“That it is desirable to build an endowed paying ward in connection with the Kandy Civil Hospital provided that Government will sanction outside Medical Officers being brought into consultation if desired by the patients or their friends.”
for consideration at the next Committee meeting of the Parent Association.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

GEOFFREY KENION.

Hon. Secretary, K.D.P.A.

Resolved.—“That this Committee cannot support the proposal that Government be asked to allow patients in the Kandy Civil Hospital to engage outside Medical Officers, but that this Committee is prepared to support a request for further accommodation in the paying wards.”

Read a letter from the Dimbula Planters' Association re payment for drugs obtained from Government Hospitals.

Resolved.—“That this Committee is not in favour of pressing for the supply of drugs on credit.”

Read a letter from the Dimbula P.A.

Dimbula Planters' Association,
Fairfield Lindula May 2nd, 1914.

The SECRETARY,

Ceylon Planters' Association, Kandy.

SIR,

I am instructed to ask you whether the Parent Association is not in entire favour of urging Government to procure an export from Bombay at as early a date as possible.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

HUNTLEY WILKINSO

Resolved.—“That this Committee is not in favour making this request.”

The Hon. the RURAL MEMBER, Legislative Council, informed the Meeting that work on the new Gampola bridge had been sanctioned and would be commenced as soon as weather conditions were favourable.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

Resolved.—“That this Committee is of opinion that land sold by Government should be handed over to the purchaser without any counter claimant being at that time in physical occupation of any portion thereof.”

SABARAGAMUWA DISTRICT COURT.

The meeting was informed that matters were now working smoothly.

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION YEAR BOOK.

Resolved.—“That Messrs. H. A. Beachcroft, A. S. Long Price, the Chairman and the Secretary be appointed a sub-Committee to deal with tenders for the printing of this book and to edit the same.”

COOLIES' FOOD SUPPLY SUB-COMMITTEE.

The following resolution from this sub-Committee was submitted:—

“That Government be asked to reduce the rate charged for conveying rice on the railway to 6th class for consignments of 4 tons or over.”

Resolved:—“That this question be left over for the present pending completion of the sub-Committee's investigations and receipt of its report.”

RICE.

Read a letter from Messrs. Delmege Forsyth & Co., and handed samples round the table.

CARDAMOM THEFTS.

After some discussion, in which the Hon. the Rural M.L.C. took part, the following resolution was passed:—

“That this Committee is strongly of opinion that an Ordinance for the protection of cardamom growers on the lines of the Cacao Thefts Ordinance should be framed, and that Government should be requested to inform this Association whether any objection exist to this course.”

THEFT OF COCONUTS.

Read the following resolution from the Batticaloa Planters' Association:—“That the Ceylon Planters' Association and other Associations should be requested to support this Association in their request that Government should consider an Ordinance for thefts of coconuts—similar to those for cocoa and rubber in localities near coconut estates.” And resolved to write and ask the Low-country Products' Association for an expression of opinion on this matter.

• EXCISE.

Read letter from the Chairman, Dickoya Planters' Association.

ARRACK TAVERNS IN PLANTING DISTRICTS.

The CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

May 6th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

In regard to the resolution passed at the last Committee meeting on this subject, I beg to bring to your notice that the op-

position of my Association against the Norwood arrack tavern is extended to the renewal of the license for the current year.

I understand that protests against this license were introduced at a recent meeting of the “Advisory Board,” but were rejected by the Chairman making use of his casting vote.

As such a proceeding would appear to annul the utility of a Board appointed for the purpose of considering local option, it will be a matter of interest to the Planting Community to know that the Committee of the P. A. of Ceylon are taking action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

H. GLYN ECCLES.

Chairman.

Dickoya Planters' Association.

Mr. T. Y. WRIGHT stated that when the question of renewing the license of the Norwood tavern was brought before the Advisory Committee two members voted against renewal and one for renewal. The Chairman then used his vote and his casting vote to carry the resolution for renewal.

A long discussion followed, and the opinion was expressed that in these circumstances the value of the Advisory Committee was nullified, and it was resolved to ask the Hon. the Colonial Secretary whether this action on the part of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Kandy Revenue District has Government's approval.

Correspondence with Government was read re the appointment of Senior Excise Officers to control the Circles including the Planting Districts. This led to a discussion, and two members undertook to supply instances of undesirable procedure.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

Resolved:—“That this question be left over for another Meeting.”

RAGAMA CAMP CERTIFICATES.

Read the following Resolution from the Ramtoda District Planters' Association:—“That the description of the cooly on the Ragama Certificate is not effective as a means of identification, and to suggest that thumb prints be affixed,” and resolved “That Government be asked to have the thumb-marks of coolies attached to Ragama Certificates.”

WARRANTS FOR BOLTERS.

The notes of a conference with the Hon. the Attorney-General were read, and it was resolved to refer the question to a sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. A. Hamilton Harding, J. B. Coles, the Chairman and the Secretary, P.A., and Messrs. Liesching & Lee.

IMPRISONMENT OF BOLTERS.

Resolved:—“That this Association strongly disapproves of the imprisonment of women or minors for absconding from estates, and that copies of this Resolution be sent to all District Associations.”

FALSE DECLARATIONS AT RAGAMA.

Read letter from the Sabaragamuwa District P.A. and enclosure.

Resolved:—“That the point raised be referred to the Planters' Association's legal advisers.”

POLICE MAGISTRATE'S CERTIFICATES.

Read a letter from Messrs. Geo. Steuart & Co., re the issue of certificates to coolies without reference to their employer for corroboration of the statements made in their affidavit.

Resolved:—"That the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary be asked whether the Police Magistrate was right in accepting the coolies' statements without inquiry from their employer and whether the Police Magistrate had the power to issue certificates in the circumstances."

Resolved:—"That Messrs. Geo. Steuart & Co. be asked for further information on the points in the correspondence."

POSTAL PILLAR BOXES.

Read letter from the Kotmalie District P.A.—

Kotmalie Planters' Association,
Hangranaya estate, Nawalaitiya, May 6th, 1914.

JOHN STILL, Esq.,

Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

I am directed by my Association to inform you that they are of opinion that pillar boxes should be placed at all the important stations on the main line.

Yours faithfully,
R. GERARD THOMPSON,
Hon. Secretary, K.P.A.

Resolved:—"That this Association is not in favour of asking for post boxes at all the important Stations on the main line."

Resolved:—"That the Chairman be authorized to engage a clerk on the Planters' Association account."

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the meeting.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P.A. of Ceylon.



THE "THIRTY COMMITTEE."

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" appointed to administer the proceeds of the export duty on tea levied under Ordinance No. 4 of 1894 for increasing the consumption of Ceylon tea in foreign lands, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 8th May, 1914, at 10-30 a.m.

Present:—Mr. Hew Kennedy (Chairman), Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot, Messrs. F. H. Layard, G. C. Bliss, H. D. Garriek, C. B. Prettijohn, William Gimson, T. Y. Wright, J. B. Coles, H. F. Laycock and John Still (Secretary). Eleven members.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" held at the Chamber of Commerce, Colombo, on Friday, the 6th February, 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Submitted letters regretting inability to be present at meeting from Mr. H. Glyn Eccles.

CEYLON TEA IN EUROPE.

Read letter from Mr. Renton, saying that Mr. Dickson will find it difficult to spend the £200 voted.

Resolved:—"That Mr. Renton be asked, in the circumstances, to send back £100 if he can see no immediate prospect of utilizing it to advantage."

INTERNATIONAL RUBBER AND ALLIED TRADES EXHIBITION.

Read letter from Mr. H. K. Rutherford.

Resolved:—"That it is not practicable to make a model of the Heneratgoda Rubber tree in Ceylon."

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Five brass trays, part of the order of twenty-five made on behalf of the Imperial Institute, were shown to the Committee, who approved of them and resolved to advise the Director, Imperial Institute, to take the whole number of twenty-five.

TEA KIOSK.

Resolved:—"That the Chairman and Mr. H. F. Laycock be appointed to approach the Chamber of Commerce and to go into the question of establishing a Tea Kiosk in Colombo." It was especially mentioned that the idea is solely to advertise Ceylon tea and not to compete with other packet traders.

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the meeting.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary to the "Thirty Committee."

HAPUTALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at the Bandarawella Hotel on Friday, April 17th, at 1 p.m. The following members were present:—Messrs. A. J. P. Wills (Chairman), P. de P. Carey, B. A. Campbell, J. L. Richardson, B. T. Heathcote, J. R. Bell, J. L. Hyde, O. H. Warren, E. H. S. Childe-Thomas, W. Allan, D. E. Warren, S. B. Smith, W. Rollo Cassie, B. J. Wyllie, A. Scovell, S. A. Mitchells; (visitors) G. A. Cornish, J. D. Sutherland, W. Rettie, R. Gatehouse, N. A. Allen (Hon. Secretary).—Seventeen members and four visitors.

The notice convening the meeting was read, and the minutes of the last annual meeting were confirmed.

Before going on with any further business the Chairman thanked the members for electing him to the Chair and regretted that he was unable to attend the last meeting owing to ill-health. He also mentioned that he was very pleased to see such a large meeting and he hoped members would do their utmost to always attend.

ROADS.

Mr. Hyde proposed that the Hon. Secretary do write to the Government Agent and request "that, when grass and weeds are cleared on the sides of roads, such be not

thrown over the road bank, but be piled on the sides of the road, as the practice prevailing at present was very detrimental to estates through which such road may run."

PROPOSED IDULGASHENA GAP RAILWAY STATION.

The sub-Committee elected to draw up figures in connection with the proposed station at Idulgashena Gap presented their report. It was proposed by Mr. WYLLIE and seconded by Mr. BELL "That, in order to avoid delay the Hon. Secretary do forward the sub-Committee's report to the General Manager." This motion was carried.

BADULLA'S MEDICAL PRACTITIONER SCHEME SUPPORTED.

Mr. SMITH, seconded by Mr. HEATHCOTE, then brought up his resolution "That, in the opinion of this Association, the Badulla Planters' Association be supported in their scheme of importing a European Medical Practitioner."

The meeting went into Committee to discuss the matter. It was finally resolved that "This Association do support the Badulla Planters' Association in the scheme."

Mr. GATEHOUSE, who had originated the scheme, and who had taken great trouble in obtaining figures, &c., attended the meeting at the request of the Association.

The CHAIRMAN before passing to any further business thanked Mr. Gatehouse heartily for his presence and for the information he gave, which remark was received by the meeting with applause.

The general meeting was then resumed and the following correspondence was put before the members:—

A letter was read from the Secretary, Kandy P. A., *re* the proposed regulations by Government in connection with shot-hole borer. It was agreed that this Association approves of same, and that the Hon. Secretary write to the Hon. Secretary, Kandy P. A., to this effect.

A letter from the Government Agent *re* Haputale Rest-house was read. It was resolved that the Hon. Secretary do write and explain how matters stand.

BANDARAWELLA CEMETERY.

Read letter from the Chairman Local Board, Bandarawella, *re* Bandarawella cemetery. It was proposed by the Hon. SECRETARY and seconded by Mr. BELL, "That in view of the Bandarawella Local Board being unable to furnish all the money necessary to rail in the Church of England portion of the cemetery, the Chairman be written to and asked how much the Board could contribute towards the necessary funds.

All correspondence on this matter was laid on the table.

RAILWAY FREIGHT ON PLUCKING BASKETS.

A letter from the General Manager, C. G. R., in connection with the proposed new rules for rates in the transport of baskets, &c., was read. It was resolved: "That the General Manager be written to and thanked for the trouble he had taken in the matter, but at the same time it be pointed out that, although these rules came into force on February 1st, 1914, a certain member of this Association had had plucking baskets up by rail since that date, and had been charged according to the old rates."

A letter was also read from the General Manager in reference to the reduction of rates on the Motor Mail service between Bandarawella and Batticaloa.

Read letters from the Government Agent stating that Rinderpest had broken out in Mahaulpota, Malkumbra and Goradiyakumbra, also a letter stating that the Town Arachchi of Haputale had been appointed inquirer into deaths.

Read letter from Badulla P.A. *re* their resolution regarding reservations for paths. This resolution was strongly supported.

DISTRICT LABOUR FEDERATION PROPOSED.

Read letter from Mr. Hyde *re* a proposed District Labour Federation. It was proposed by Mr. HYDE, and seconded by the Hon. SECRETARY that members be circulated as regards the proposed scheme and, on receipt of their replies, this matter be brought up at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

A. ALLEN,

Hon. Secretary, Haputale P. A.

THE NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting was held at the Hill Club, Nuwara Eliya on 18th April, 1914, at 2 p.m. Mr. A. J. VOLUM, the Chairman, presided, and there were also present Messrs. E. C. Elliott, L. O. Gilliat, A. C. W. Ferguson, W. P. Spurway, C. T. Nettleton, E. H. Mellor, W. R. Matthew, Raynor Smith, and R. F. Megginson (Hon. Secretary.)

The notice convening the meeting was read.

The minutes of the last General Meeting were read and confirmed.

THE ACCOUNTS.

When the Chairman brought forward a statement of accounts for 1913.

Mr. A. C. W. FERGUSON said he was glad to notice that the balance was larger than last year.

The accounts were adopted.

THE NEW RULES.

The next business was the discussion of the new rules, which, as the Chairman remarked, had been in the hands of the members for some considerable time.

Mr. E. C. ELLIOTT thought they might add the suggestion made in Committee by Mr. Spurway.

Mr. SPURWAY explained that his suggestion was that Nanuoya should be included as a section of the Nuwara Eliya District. He pointed to the importance of the Nanuoya Railway Station and the Nanuoya cart road to the planting community of the Nuwara Eliya District.

Mr. E. H. MELLOR thought the suggestion an excellent one.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that if they added to the rules submitted by the special Committee for confirmation they would be unable to pass the rules that day, and it would also mean a further delay of three months in bringing out the booklet.

lands advertised for sale are in a number of cases unwarrantable and vexatious and that Government be requested to empower the Government Agents to lease such reservations as they may consider unnecessary to purchasers, without reserve."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from Mrs. Ferguson expressing thanks for the vote of sympathy passed in December, 1913.

Read letter from Parent Association with draft regulations *re* "Shot-Hole Borer." The regulations were approved.

Read letter from Chairman, D. R. C., *re* "Road Tax."

Read letter *re* the Constable Arachchi at Kandapola.

Figures of the sub-Committee appointed to enquire into "Cane for Baskets and railway rates" were before the meeting and Mr. Spurway spoke on the subject.

Tabled:—Irish Association, Kandy Cemeteries.

AMBEWELA-DIYAGAMA ROAD.

With reference to a letter sent by the Association to the District Road Committee relative to the Ambewela-Diyagama Road, the Chairman of the D.R.C. (Mr. A. W. Seymour) wrote as follows:—

March 6th, 1914.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of December 8th, 1913, I have the honour to annex hereto copy of a resolution passed at a meeting of this Committee held on the 2nd instant for your information. The rate will be paid to Mr. Wilson. He has guaranteed to spend an equal amount.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
A. W. SEYMOUR.

DAMAGE TO OIL DRUMS.

Mr. A. C. W. FERGUSON asked to be allowed to bring to the notice of the meeting the matter of damage to oil drums at Nanu Oya and Kandapola. They were evidently pitched out of the railway carriages, rolled into the lines and got badly damaged, and dented. Two years ago he had one badly damaged and broken to pieces. The drums cost Rs. 28, and he thought that the railway should provide slides like those attached to brewery waggons in England.

Mr. R. F. MEGGINSON seconded.

Mr. W. P. SPURWAY said they had such slides at Nanu Oya.

Mr. FERGUSON said they should be provided at Kandapola as well.

The CHAIRMAN said it was evident that the slides at Nanu Oya were not used.

Mr. E. H. MELLOR said that might be due to the coolies not having rope to put round the middle of the drums.

Mr. Ferguson's motion was then put and carried.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the business.

R. F. MEGGINSON,
Hon. Secretary,
N. E. D. P. A.

PASSARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting was held at the Passara Gun Club Pavilion on April 18th. Present:—Mr. Roger Bannerman, Chairman, Messrs. D. G. Norman, James Duncan, J. J. Robinson and Bernard Strachan (Hon. Secretary). The business to be placed before the general meeting was discussed and arranged.

The general meeting was then held. There were present besides the above Messrs. A. W. Bisset, H. B. Bremner, F. W. Eardley Liesching, H. Jones, W. Stewart Taylor, G. L. Horsfall, W. H. Taylor, A. B. Traill, Geo. Stewart, and visitors Messrs. C. W. Beattie, W. H. Field, W. Evans, P. M. Murray, A. W. Bowles, and T. H. Olney.

The notice of the meeting was read and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

P.W.D. UNEXPENDED VOTES.

On October 11th, 1913, the Association passed the following resolutions:—"That the Hon. the Rural Member be asked to ascertain the aggregate for the island of the votes entrusted to the P.W.D. unexpended during the financial year, and how these unexpended balances were disposed of," and "That the Planters' Association of Ceylon be invited to lend its assistance in the matter."

On January 31st, 1914, the figures had not been received and the scope of the resolution was enlarged to read "that the figures supplied should cover the last 10 years and not only the financial year 1912-13."

A letter was read from the Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon, intimating that the Hon. the Rural Member had been asked to obtain the required figures.

The Association was of opinion that the figures should be pressed for.

The CHAIRMAN said that no doubt the figures would make good reading and Government probably were unwilling to publish them.

Mr. DUNCAN remarked that the object of asking for the figures was to ascertain the amount of unexpended P.W.D. votes to surplus balances. Railways and other remunerative works were constructed largely out of these balances but it was only fair to ask posterity to take its share of this kind of expenditure.

HOSPITALS.

The lack of sufficient hospital accommodation in the Lunugalla and Madulsima districts was severely commented on. It was decided to ask Government for early relief in the matter. The Association was of opinion that a small district hospital in Madulsima would meet the case better than increased accommodation in the Lunugalla hospital. It was pointed out that the completion of the Passara hospital would not relieve the congestion at Lunugalla in any way.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The Draft Ordinance for controlling this pest was read. The Association was in favour of some such measure being put in force at once.

The CHAIRMAN thought some loophole might be left for shot-hole infected estates which had large nurseries laid down to dispose of their stumps. In a shot-hole infected district they might be allowed to dispose of stumps to infected estates. However, it was not a point he wished to press.

RESERVATIONS ON CROWN LAND.

The resolution from the Badulla Association was strongly supported.

PROVINCIAL ROAD COMMITTEE.

A letter was read from the P.R.C. reminding the Association that in the case of P.R.C. grants to estate for roads the estates were expected to spend an amount on their own account equal to the grant.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that he would pay out no grants in future till vouchers were sent in showing that the full amount had been expended.

PASSARA RAILWAY.

The question of continuing the agitation for the extension of the railway to Passara was fully discussed. Taking into consideration the success of motor lorry traction in the district and with due regard to the state of the Colony's finances at the present moment, it was decided to leave the matter in abeyance for the present.

TELEPHONES.

The sub-Committee furnished the Association with full details of the cost of inaugurating local exchanges in Passara, Lunugalla and Madulsima, and of connecting with Badulla. The charges appeared reasonable, and it was decided to circularize all estates concerned setting out the cost of erecting an average estate system, and of connecting that system with the Government exchange.

SALES OF RED LEAF AND FLUFF AT THE FACTORY DOOR.

ADMIXTURE WITH GOOD TEA.

Mr. ROBINSON addressed the meeting. He pointed out that it was possible to obtain 15 to 18 cents per lb. for refuse tea at the factory door, while the price in Colombo was round about 12 cents. This needed explanation. Native dealers in Colombo were in the habit of selecting some tea-maker in the district as their agent, making him an advance of, in some cases, as much as Rs. 750. They contracted for a monthly supply of refuse tea. The tea-maker would then endeavour to make contracts with surrounding estates. It was, of course, understood that a considerable amount of good tea would have to be included in the refuse to make the rate a paying one for the dealer and tea-maker. In one case a tea-maker, who was apparently the local agent, was unable to make up the contract amount from surrounding estates, and started to steal the estate refuse tea, which was always despatched to Colombo. The stolen sacks were opened and contained a considerable amount of good leaf. He wished these facts published for the benefit of the planting community.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that they owed a debt of gratitude to Mr. Robinson for the information he had given them, and a vote of thanks was passed.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

BERNARD STRACHAN,
Hon. Secretary,
Passara Planters' Association.

PUNDALOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the above Association was held on April 22nd, at 3 p.m. Present:—Messrs. J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman), H. L. Egan, F. E. Paulet, G. B. Stuart, J. A. Stuart, J. Finlayson (visitor), W. H. Nicholson (visitor), and C. Owen (Hon. Secretary.)

Read letters from Messrs. J. H. Marcel and J. B. Adkins regretting their inability to attend.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Paulet was appointed to audit the accounts.

Read letter from P.M.G. regretting that the English mails which arrived in Colombo on February 28th were not delivered in Pundaloya until March 3rd through error, and that this would not occur again.

DELAYED MAILS.

The CHAIRMAN said that even now the delivery of letters was not nearly as prompt as it should be, and pointed out that the district was only a small one, and that the postmaster should have no difficulty in sorting and delivering all mail letters on the same day. After some discussion the CHAIRMAN put the following resolution to the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. EGAN and carried unanimously: "That this Association wish to point out to the Postmaster-General that, in spite of their complaint re delivery of mail letters, the postmaster still keeps certain letters over till Mondays and Tuesdays to suit his convenience, and does not deliver the complete English mails on Sundays when received."

Read the draft regulations re shot-hole borer forwarded by the Parent Association for discussion.

Mr. EGAN said that most of the regulations were contained already in the Plants Pests Ordinance.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that these regulations applied to shot-holes only, and that if they became law they would be stringently enforced. It was then resolved that the Hon. Secretary should write to the P. A. that the draft regulations re shot-hole borer should be reported but not published in the "Government Gazette."

A BAD ROAD METAL.

Read the following resolution by Mr. G. B. Stuart: "That the attention of the District Engineer be drawn to the disgraceful condition of the Pundaloya-Watagoda road, and to the inferior quality of metal that is now being broken for repairs."

In speaking to his resolution Mr. STUART said that the metal now being used for repairs was absolutely worthless and that in three months time the road would be as bad as ever. His carters were grumbling and saying that they were unable to carry the loads they used to.

Mr. EGAN, in seconding this, said that the coolies who work on the roads in this district have so far to go for their pay that they lose two days' work, and that they were discontented. He also wished to draw attention to culvert No. 209 on the road in question. The parapet on this culvert was still to be built, though the stones for the work had been cut over a year ago. It was a dangerous place and should be seen to as soon as possible.

Mr. STUART's resolution was carried.

MINOR ROADS.

A resolution under this heading had been withdrawn owing to the proposer's inability to attend.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that in future, if possible, meetings should be attended by a reporter of one of the papers. Seconded by Mr. OWEN and carried.

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

C. OWEN,
Hon. Secretary.

DIMBULA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Several matters of considerable interest were discussed at the usual meeting of the Dimbula Planters' Association, which took place at the Sandys Thomas Memorial Hall on Monday, 27th April. The Chairman (Mr. A. Hamilton Harding) presided, and there were also present Messrs. R. Mylius, A. C. Chamberlin, H. D. McMillan, G. C. Bliss, P. Healing, R. Fowler, Jocelyn H. Thomas, C. F. Winthrop, R. K. MacBride (District Engineer), E. E. Megget, J. Graeme Sinclair, G. H. Hughes, F. H. Layard, H. M. McLeod, C. Collinson, J. Ferguson, J. Cox Scott, W. P. R. Spencer (visitor), L. Mercer, W. G. Beauchamp, A. T. Sydney Smith, C. L. Bliss, D. I. Maitland, G. H. Howard, H. D. Saner, E. Mackessack, F. R. Smethurst, R. C. Fowler, and L. W. Livy (visitor).

THE LATE MR. A. CAMERON.

The notice convening the meeting having been read and the minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the CHAIRMAN said: Before commencing the business of this Association today it is my sad duty to mention the death of a prominent Dimbula planter, Mr. Alexander Cameron. I will ask you kindly to sanction the action taken by the Hon. Secretary in writing to the relatives of the late Mr. Cameron conveying our deep sympathy in the usual manner."

The resolution was carried in silence, the whole of the members present standing.

THE LATE MR. ROE.

The HON. SECRETARY reported having sent the following letter to Dr. William Hossack, Port Health Officer, Calcutta:—

DEAR SIR,

I have been instructed to write and convey to you the sorrow of this Association at Mr. Roe's death. The fact that Mr. Roe has apparently willed it that his private effects at Rosita should be sold, and the proceeds of such sale should be handed over to the Planters' Benevolent Fund goes far to show the great kindness of his nature.

THE CEYLON NURSING ASSOCIATION.

The HON. SECRETARY said that, in forwarding a cheque to the Secretary of the Ceylon Nursing Association, he asked for information as to the condition attaching to an annual donation of Rs. 50.

In reply the following letter was received:—

Hatton, February 2nd, 1914.

HUNTLEY WILKINSON, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary,
Dimbula P.A.

DEAR SIR,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th of January with cheque for Rs. 100, being donations of Rs. 50 for 1913 and 1914 to the Ceylon Nursing Association. The condition attaching to this donation is as follows:—"Any Planters' Association contributing a sum of Rs. 50 per annum to the C.N.A. has the privilege of nominating one of their members for the benefit of subscribers' rates, such member not being a subscriber to the C.N.A., and having required the services of a C.N.A. nurse."

Yours faithfully,
(Miss) M. W. THOMPSON,
Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said that in this connection he wished to make a few remarks. At the last meeting it was mentioned, under a misapprehension, that the contribution was a voluntary subscription instead of a donation by the district. It was further stated that the reason why the sum of Rs. 50 was not paid in 1913 was that it was not asked for by the Ceylon Nursing Association. In view of the fact that the contribution was a donation and not a subscription it should have been paid without the Association waiting to be asked for it. He thought it desirable that this should be made clear as what was said at the last meeting might give a wrong impression to the outside world.

RICE THEFTS IN DIMBULA.

PRaise FOR THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
NUWARA ELIYA.

The HON. SECRETARY reported having sent the following letter to the Inspector-General of Police:—

February 4th, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to bring to your notice "That this Association (the Dimbula P.A.) records its high appreciation of the successful prosecutions made by Mr. A. P. Williams (Assistant Superintendent of Police, Nuwara Eliya) in the matter of rice thefts by carters and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Inspector-General of Police with a covering letter from the Hon. Secretary asking that the thanks of the Association be conveyed to Mr. Williams."

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
HUNTLEY WILKINSON.

Under date February 6th, 1914, the Inspector-General of Police replied as under:—

Colombo, February 6th, 1914.

I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, and to state that I am very glad to have this appreciation of Mr. Williams's work.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
H. L. DOWDIGGIN.

The CHAIRMAN said that in regard to this matter the Superintendent resident in Nuwara Eliya had taken very energetic steps to detect rice thefts in the district. They were indeed very fortunate in getting a man who seemed to be well up to his work. Mr. Williams had been successful in getting two men and a carter sentenced at the Hatton Court to six months' imprisonment each and in appeal the sentences had been confirmed.

A MEMBER: Now we have a new Police Sergeant at Lindula on the strength of rice thefts.

The CHAIRMAN said he understood that this was so. Attention had been drawn to the fact that one of the kaddie keepers convicted as a receiver of stolen rice lived close to the Police Station at Lindula.

MEAT MARKET AT TALAW KELLE.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following correspondence in connection with the above subject:—

Preston, Agra Patnas,
March 10th, 1914

RE CHAIRMAN,
Local Board of Talawakelle.

SIR,

MEAT MARKET AT TALAWAKELLE.

With reference to the above subject and the advice received from the Talawakelle Local Board Member to this Association, during the third quarter of last year that a market was to be installed at Talawakelle by the Local Board Authorities, I have the honour to inquire when this market is expected to take definite shape.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
A. HAMILTON HARDING,
Chairman, Dimbula P.A.

The Kacheheri,
Nuwara Eliya, March 12th, 1914.

RE CHAIRMAN,
Dimbula P.A.,
Preston Estate, Agra Patnas.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 10th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the matter was brought before the meeting of the Sanitary Board held on October 23rd, 1913, but deferred for consideration at a later date.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
A. W. SEYMOUR,
Assistant Government Agent.

Following this the Hon. Secretary wrote to Mr. Seymour on April 22nd asking for further information as to when the matter was likely to receive consideration.

In reply Mr. A. W. Seymour wrote on April 23rd as follows:—

SIR,

"Referring to your letter of the 22nd instant, I have the honour to inform you that the matter will be considered at the next meeting of the Sanitary Board, but this be some time after July 1914."

The CHAIRMAN: I may say that I saw the Assistant Government Agent in Nuwara Eliya on Saturday and he told me that the delay in getting a meat market at Talawakelle was due to the difficulty which is being experienced in obtaining a site.

THE ROAD TAX

The HON. SECRETARY read the following letter from the A. G. A., Nuwara Eliya:—

District Road Committee,
Nuwara Eliya, March 11th, 1914.

SIR,

I am instructed by the District Road Committee (on the proposal of the planting representatives, Messrs. Hamilton Harding and R. C. Rolt), to solicit your assistance in the following matter, which I think is of great interest to the Planting community.

(2). It seems not understood that all Indian coolies who are not actually engaged in, or in search of, agricultural labour, are liable to pay road tax, whether their names appear on the check roll or not. Consequently many superintendents do not pay tax for their domestic servants if they are on the check roll. The result is a loss to the D.R.C. and the constant inability of that body to grant applications from Associations for funds for roads and bridges. The D.R.C. is a body entirely distinct from Government and exists in this district chiefly for the benefit of the Planting Community. Its funds are always very low and applications for money have often been refused. Planters often have to spend money out of their own pockets because the Committee has not sufficient funds to pay for necessary works.

(3) I shall be greatly obliged if you will point out to the members of your Association that tax should be paid for all persons employed as clerks, contractors, kanakapullies, engine drivers, chauffeurs, carpenters, masons, or domestic servants, whether house-keepers, kitchen coolies, or dhobies or acting in any other menial capacity, and that it would be to the interest of the Planting Community if every gentleman would see that tax were paid.

(4) I should welcome any additional payments on account of road tax this year. At present I have many deserving applications for votes, for which there are no funds to grant.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
A. W. SEYMOUR,
Chairman, D. R. C.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

The CHAIRMAN: With regard to this matter, gentlemen, I have attended two meetings of the District Road Committee this year and the A.G.A. has impressed upon me the importance of seeing that the Commutation Tax is paid by everybody liable. I have had my suspicions that certain members of our native community have not been paying their Road Tax, so this year—with the permission of the Assistant Government Agent—I addressed the Vidane (2) Arrachis and told them they would have the support of this Association, if they reported anybody liable to the tax who was not paying it. As a result of this Mr. Seymour tells me he has got in far more money so far in 1914 than he has ever

had before. I should like to emphasise the fact that 33 per cent. of the tax comes back to us in the form of road grants for the purposes of keeping up minor road bridges as well as minor roads so that it is to our advantage to see that commutation tax is paid by all who are liable.

DELAYED MAILS AT TALAWAKELLE.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following further correspondence on the above subject:—

February 12th, 1914.

THE POST MASTER-GENERAL,
Colombo.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of December 5th last, I have the honour to state that the "half hour" mentioned in your letter under reply is not quite the actual delay which takes place as you will observe from the following instance. On December 14th, 1913, a member of this Association was returning from Hatton by car to Lindula when he heard the train at Hatton at about 5.15 a.m., while the coach which conveys the mails to Lindula was seen at the Talawakelle Post Office at 8.15 a.m. Therefore, this train referred to, which is scheduled to arrive at 6.13 a.m. at Talawakelle could hardly have been so late as to allow only for the half hour you mention.

I shall, therefore, be glad if you will kindly further investigate the matter and advise this Association of the results of your inquiry at an early date.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
HUNTLEY WILKINSON.

POST MASTER-GENERAL'S REPLY.

To this the Postmaster-General replied on March 2nd as follows:—

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 12th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the General Manager of the Railway informs me that the train arrived at Hatton and Talawakelle as under, on December 14th and that the information you obtained, was, therefore, incorrect.

Hatton arrived, 5.51 a.m.
Talawakelle „ 6.42 a.m.

Upon receipt of this letter the Hon. Secretary communicated with the member giving the information and as a result of a letter sent by that member in reply he again wrote to the Post Master-General in the following terms:—

SIR,

With reference to your letter of March 2nd, I have the honour to quote from a letter received from the member of this Association whose original information I conveyed to you in my letter of February 12th, as follows:

"I am in receipt of your copy of letter from the Post Master-General. There is, no doubt, the mails had not been delivered to the coach on the 14th, at 8.15 a.m. If the train was late, as the Post Master-General states, by about 26 minutes, or thereabouts, I still maintain my statement that the coach was unduly delayed by over an hour and thirty minutes. There is no doubt of the fact that the coach was in Talawakelle waiting at the foot of the Post Office until 8.15 a.m. on the 14th December. My statement on this point is indisputable and though my train times may be incorrect, this point is absolutely correct; a train half an hour late does not have to delay the coach 1½ hours or more." The members of this Association would be glad to hear that the constant delay of the coach at Talawakelle could be averted."

This further communication, Mr. HUNTLEY WILKINSON said, produced the following rather satisfactory response from the Post Master-General.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 12th instant the Post Master, Talawakelle, has been directed to give the matter his special attention and to see that no unnecessary delay in starting the coach from his office is permitted.

The CHAIRMAN: You see, gentlemen, we had to persist in this matter, but, after some unnecessary correspondence necessitated by the fact that the Post Master-General was riding on a few words, we got our point at last.

TALAWAKELLE STATION AND APPROACH ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN said that (under the heading Talawakelle Station and approach roads) a letter had been sent to the General Manager, C.G.R., asking that more seats might be provided at the Talawakelle Station. Two more seats had been placed at the station and the matter had been allowed to stop at that for the present. A certain amount of congestion existed at Talawakelle Station, more especially in the waiting room, and members had complained that when trying to enter the waiting room door they often met coolies who brushed against them and that sort of thing. The General Manager had been asked that this matter should be brought to the notice of the station master. In the meanwhile the Association made the further request that the present parcel and box room next to the waiting room should be thrown out into a waiting room in order to give more room for first and second class passengers. The General Manager had said he did not see his way to do this, and the matter lay in abeyance for the present. The siding outside the liquid fuel shed was very much congested by carts at present and the approach road was in a very bad state just about this road and was not kept in the same order as the road was. The speaker said he saw the General Manager of the Railway last Thursday and Mr. Green gave an undertaking to see that the siding outside the liquid fuel shed was put on a proper footing so that liquid fuel casks did not block up the mouth of the road to the goods shed. With the increasing amount of motor lorry traffic it was essential that the mouth of this road should be kept open to allow lorries to pass. Anyone who had been there lately would see that the road had been very much improved.

LEVEL CROSSING.

The following letter received by Mr. A. Hamilton Harding from the Director of Public Works was read:—

RAILWAY LEVEL CROSSINGS.

March 17th, 1914.

SIR,

"With reference to your letter dated the 15th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the materials for laying in all the crossings referred to are being prepared."

The HON. SECRETARY explained that this letter referred to the four level crossings in the district.

It was suggested that as the District Engineer (Mr. MacBride) was present at the meeting that day he might be asked if he could give them any further information on this point.

Mr. MACBRIDE said the estimates for all these crossings had been sanctioned and the work would be completed before very long. (Applause.)

DIMBULA STEAM ROLLERS.

A letter from the Director of Public Works to the Hon. Secretary was read as follows:—

March 9th, 1914.

SIR, With reference to your letter dated the 18th ultimo I have the honour to inform you that two steam rollers are at work in the Dimbula district."

The District Engineer (Mr. MacBride) in reply to a question, said that one of the steam rollers had been lent to Nuwara Eliya for three weeks for work on the Nuwara Eliya—Nanu Oya road.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to ask Mr. MacBride when both steam rollers will again be located in Dimbula?

Mr. MACBRIDE: The roller from Nuwara Eliya is to go to Nawalapitiya at the end of the three weeks for work on the Dolosbage road, which is in a very bad state. The other roller is here for use at any moment.

The CHAIRMAN: After the work on the Dolosbage road is finished will the second roller be sent back to Dimbula?

Mr. MACBRIDE replied in the affirmative. Both rollers had been sent for use in the district under his control.

The CHAIRMAN said that for months and months they had been trying to obtain two steam-rollers for use in the Dimbula district. With the advent of motor lorry transport they had to consider the possibility of a probable increase in the wear and tear of the roads. Two steam-rollers were essential. He had seen the Director of Public Works personally in regard to the matter and at last, after much correspondence, they had obtained what they desired. With the excellent District Engineer they had in their midst at present he hoped to see the roads in very good trim by the end of the year. (Applause.)

Mr. J. FERGUSON proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. MacBride for the excellent work he had done in the district during the short time he had been in Dimbula. Mr. MacBride had been invited to the meeting as a guest and had given the meeting a good deal of valuable information.

The HON. SECRETARY: He is an Hon. Member.

The resolution of thanks was enthusiastically carried.

BLIND CORNERS.

The CHAIRMAN asked the District Engineer to report to the Dimbula P.A. any case in which a person might oppose the cutting back of any blind corner. There were a number of very bad corners in the district and he hoped the D.E. might find that many of these needed cutting back. He trusted no member of the Association would oppose such improvements and that any small pieces of land required for the purpose would be willingly given.

FREIGHT ON PLUCKING BASKETS.

On the above subject the following letter was read from the General Manager, C.G.R.:—

SIR,

February 6th, 1914.

I have the honour to enclose herewith for your information copy of a revision of Clause 42 of the Railway Goods Regulations, which deals with freight charges for packages of a light or frail nature.

(2) I have received complaints from the Planting Community that the then existing rule whereby small consignments of plucking baskets were subjected to the full wagon load charge of 12½ cents per mile below Nawalapitiya and 25 cents above Nawalapitiya was unreasonable, and after consideration² and consultation with certain planters affected—I got the enclosed revised rule passed by Government, the alteration being that in the case of consignments weighing less than three cwt. only half wagon rates should be charged, and this I think is a very reasonable concession. It should be borne in mind that the average weight of these baskets that can be got into a wagon to carry twelve tons is about six cwt. which, obviously, is a very unprofitable load.

I am, Sir
Your Obedient Servant,
G. P. GREENE.

The CHAIRMAN said a copy of the revised paragraph, which appeared in the "Ceylon Government Gazette," of January 23rd, 1914, could be obtained from the Record Office.

RESERVATIONS FOR PATHS AND STREAMS.

The following resolution forwarded by the Badulla P.A. was supported:—"That the reservations for paths, minor roads and streams now being put upon Crown land advertised for sale, are, in a number of cases, unwarrantable and vexatious; and that Government be requested to empower the Government Agents to leave such reservations as they may consider unnecessary to the purchaser, without reserve."

The CHAIRMAN: It was suggested in Committee that, this being a matter for the Planting Community as a whole, the resolution be referred to the Central P.A. and that we support it.—Agreed.

LIQUID FUEL AT TALAWAKELLE.

This was the next question upon the agenda and the CHAIRMAN explained that complaints had been received from some members to the effect that they were unable to obtain liquid fuel at Talawakelle when they desired it. A circular had been sent out by the Hon. Secretary making inquiry as to whether members experienced this difficulty and asking for particulars. A great deal of trouble had been experienced in getting members to reply and he took this opportunity of saying it would be most obliging of members in future if they were in a position to give a reply to such circulars to do so, if they could, in the course of a week. Some members might be absent when the circulars arrived, but that could not be helped. They would realise that it detracted from the Hon. Secretary's interest in his work if he found that some members did not take the slightest notice of circulars sent out by him. Frequently these circulars could be answered in a word—"Yes or No."

The HON. SECRETARY said he wrote to Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. on February 9th in regard to the matter and received the following reply:—

DEAR SIR,

"We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9th instant asking us with how much kerosine oil, liquid fuel and petrol per mensem we supply our Talawakelle Installation. There is nothing in your letter to show why the particulars are required, and, although we appreciate the interest taken in the mat-

ter, we regret we cannot see that any useful purpose can be served by giving you the information, which you will admit, is of a private nature; however, if it will really be of any use to you and you can make us see it, the figures are at your disposal, on the understanding that they are not for publication."

Yours faithfully,
DELMEGE, FORSYTH & CO.

The HON. SECRETARY explained that the circular asking for information was sent out to members and the results of the inquiry were forwarded to Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., who replied in the following terms:—

DEAR SIR,

"With reference to your letter of the 19th instant under the heading liquid fuel, kerosine oil and petrol—the contents of which we note with interest—we still do not see how giving you the figures will alter the situation at Talawakelle. What will do so is our opening an installation at Watagoda. We are erecting it now, and in a very short time quite a fair proportion of the present trade at Talawakelle will be transferred. The railway have also promised us six new tank wagons, which will be very helpful in keeping all depots regularly supplied, and we think the complaints the Association have evidently been receiving will soon be a thing of the past. As regards your other point, the dissatisfaction reported of the quality of the fuel supplied was only of a temporary nature and was apparently due to our receiving a cargo which was slightly thicker than supplied heretofore. With the large number of fields our principals have to draw from, and the large business they have, it is practically impossible to always supply any particular market with exactly the same fuel, but they have made a special note of the requirements of Ceylon, and you are not likely to receive any more complaints on this score."

Yours faithfully,
DELMEGE, FORSYTH & CO.

THE INSURANCE LUGGAGE.

When this matter came forward for discussion the CHAIRMAN explained that the matter had been taken up by the Central Association, who had appointed the Chairman, the Secretary, and the speaker as a deputation to meet the General-Manager, C.G.R., and discuss the subject. They would probably have noticed in the press that yet another planter had lost a box on the railway night mail. This was only one of many cases. The question of the insurance of luggage emanated from the Dimbula P.A. and that was the reason he had been appointed to act on the sub-Committee to interview the General-Manager. The Chairman of the Parent Association had been studying the matter in India and was formulating his opinions, and the speaker had given him opinions. In the course of a week or so he hoped the sub-Committee would have seen the General-Manager and he would then be in a position to give them further information.

EXTRADITION WARRANTS.

In regard to this subject the CHAIRMAN explained that a case occurred in the lower end of the Dimbula district in which a coolie was given a specific sum of money for a specific purpose—namely, for the purpose of recruiting labour at the Coast—and who had refused to return the money or to return to the estate. A deputation was appointed for the purpose of waiting upon the Attorney-General with a view to obtaining an extradition warrant.

The result of the deputation's interview with the Attorney-General was considered in camera.

CARTING TROUBLE AT TALAWAKELLE.

The CHAIRMAN explained that since the roads had been opened again on February 12th, after the surra outbreak, a tremendous amount of difficulty had been experienced in obtaining straw, chiefly because the Wellimada Road was blocked by an outbreak of rinderpest at Gampola, and straw was not allowed to be brought that way. In this respect he asked the Hon. Secretary to read a letter from the Assistant Government Agent at Nuwara Eliya enclosing a letter from the Gravets Mudaliyar, Nuwara Eliya.

The HON. SECRETARY read the letter as follows:—

SIR,

With reference to your letter dated the 4th instant, I have the honour to annex overleaf copy of report from the Gravets Mudaliyar, Nuwara Eliya, on the subject.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
A. W. SEYMOUR.

The report by the Gravets Mudaliyar was as follows:—

There is plenty of straw coming up carried by men. I have spoken to a man and he is prepared to sell at Nuwara Eliya—Mr. Wilkinson can send up carts—100 bundles at Rs. 2.50 a hundred. Mr. Wilkinson must guarantee the number of bundles and up to what date he requires straw.

E. F. EDRISINGHE.

P.S.—I understand today that straw is being transported across the washaway at Palagama and carted to Nuwara Eliya from thence. The trouble should be over soon.

E. F. EDRISINGHE.

February 9th, 1914.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the complaint of the carters was that they could not obtain straw and, therefore could not put the carts on the road.

VARIOUS APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. G. H. Collinson, whose appointment on the Planters' Benevolent Fund was overlooked at the last meeting, was written to by the Hon. Secretary and had consented to act. The Hon. Secretary's action was confirmed, and Mr. Collinson was appointed to the post.

Mr. W. P. Spurway was appointed Official Visitor to the Nanu Oya Dispensary.

Mr. Walker having left the District, Mr. Hamilton Harding was appointed to act on the Plant Pests Board. As it had been notified in the "Government Gazette" that Mr. Hamilton Harding had been appointed to act "during Mr. Walker's absence," it was now agreed that steps should be taken to have Mr. Hamilton Harding's permanent appointment officially confirmed.

A letter was read announcing the appointment of Mr. G. Cox Scott as unofficial Police Magistrate at Nuwara Eliya and Hatton.

In view of Mr. F. H. Layard's departure next month the question of the appointment of a member to serve on the Standing Committee arose, but it was pointed out that the appointment must be made at the Annual Meeting.

In view of the impending departure of Mr. A. M. Cooper on six months' leave, the A. G. A., Nuwara Eliya,

wrote asking for a report from the Dimbula P.A. in regard to the appointment of a gentleman to act temporarily.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the Committee recommended that, as Mr. Cooper would only be absent from the Island for six months, Mr. Cox Scott be asked to look after Mr. Cooper's part of the district during such absence.—Agreed.

The CHAIRMAN said he was sorry that owing to an oversight he had forgotten to mention the receipt of a letter from Mr. Hay Morrison, regretting inability to be present at the meeting.

Mr. Mason wrote to the effect that he would be unable to serve as Hon. Secretary of the Nursing Scheme at the lower end of the District. He suggested that the midwife be attached to the District Hospital.

The CHAIRMAN said that in Committee Mr. Cox Scott had promised to undertake the initiation of the Maternity Scheme at the lower end of Dimbula as well as in upper Dimbula. After seeing the good effects which the Maternity Scheme had had in upper Dimbula in reducing infantile mortality, the Chairman thought it well to start a Maternity Scheme in the lower part of the District.

Mr. A. B. RENTON wrote resigning his position on the General Committee, and the present Acting Superintendent at Talawakelle was asked to serve in his stead.

In view of the fact that he is shortly returning home, Mr. Tull wrote resigning his position on the Minor Committee to report on the condition of the Lindula-Agra Road from Caledonia Gap to Holmwood. Mr. Graham Smith was appointed in his stead.

Mr. W. P. Spurway was appointed vice Mr. Forbes as Unofficial Visitor at the Nanu Oya Dispensary.

Mr. J. G. Sinclair, having consented to act was again appointed as Hon. Secretary of the Telephone Exchange at Millicoultry.

MR. R. HUYSE ELIOT CONGRATULATED.

The CHAIRMAN referred to the appointment of Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot as Planting Representative in Council and voiced the congratulations of the Association upon the honour which the Central Association had conferred upon him. The members of the Dimbula Association, the Chairman thought, were instrumental to some extent in getting the appointment put through.

It was agreed that a congratulatory resolution be sent to Mr. Huyshe Eliot.

THE P. L. F.

The Hon. SECRETARY drew attention to certain figures with regard to the total acreages affiliated with the Planters' Labour Federation, which had recently appeared in the Press. The Dimbula P.A. had from the very beginning worried the P.L.F. for these figures and at last they had got them.

Mr. MEGGET asked what the affiliated acreage in Dimbula was, and Mr. G. C. Bliss replied that he did not have the figures with him at the moment.

A LOCAL LABOUR FEDERATION.

In regard to the question of a Local Labour Federation, the Hon. Secretary read the following letter from Mr. R. T. Thornton, Hon. Secretary of the Uda Pussellawa P.A.:—"At our last meeting it was decided that a combination of three districts such as Dimbula, Badulla and Uda Pussellawa was undesirable, even if all the districts agreed to join, as it tends to restrict the freedom of the cooly."

The Hon. SECRETARY remarked that as the scheme had been "knocked on the head by the District where it originated" there was an end to the matter.

COOLIES AND THE NEW ROUTE.

The CHAIRMAN called attention to the minute contained in the Ceylon Government Gazette of March 13th, 1914, relative to a change in the Indian Coolie Labour Ordinance No. 13 of 1889. The change had reference to the meeting of coolie arrivals at Danushkodi and Mandapam. The Chairman mentioned that he had heard that some estates had not booked their coolies direct to the station nearest to their villages, but only to Talamannar. It was only necessary for him to say that there was a certain amount of risk attached to such a proceeding, and he hoped all planters in the Dimbula district would book their coolies direct to the station closest to their estates. This was the course most of them, he presumed, were already taking.

SLIPS BY ROAD AND RAIL.

In connection with this subject the CHAIRMAN said that during the floods of last year, when many slips occurred both on the railway and on the roads, throughout the Island, the Railway Department and the P.W.D.—as his hearers were perfectly aware—were none too well supplied with labour to cope with these extraordinary works. In order to facilitate the re-opening of large slips on the roads and on the railways he thought that, as an Association, they should help these two departments in any extraordinary works of the kind mentioned. ("Hear, hear"). He therefore expressed the sincere hope that all members of the Dimbula Association who might be called upon by the Association to render assistance to these two Departments at short notice would do so. (Applause.)

THE DISPENSING OF DRUGS.

The Hon. SECRETARY read the following letter from the P.C.M.O. on the above subject:—

March 19th, 1914.

SIR,

With reference to your letter dated 17th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the dispensing of drugs from the Government Dispensaries on receipt of cash is not peculiar to the Dimbula District as will be apparent from section C. para 5 of the rules framed under section 32 (1) of the Medical Wants Ordinance, No. 9 of 1912, a copy of which is annexed for your information.

(2) I have already asked Government to have this rule altered, but they have refused. You should address Government on the subject, giving details and pointing out the inconvenience of the practice.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. J. RUTHERFORD,

for F.C.M.C. and I.C.H.

The HON. SECRETARY: This matter has been referred to the Parent Association and they are taking it up. The question is one of importance to the whole Island and not only to the Dimbula District.

NANU OYA DISPENSARY REPORT.

The following report on the Nanu Oya Dispensary was read:—

Visited April 3rd, 1914, at 10 a.m. The Apothecary in charge was away on leave and his place was filled by the relieving Apothecary, who gave me all necessary information.

Drugs.—A sufficient supply is in stock and more are on order.

PATIENTS.—During the quarter ended March 31st, 693 estate coolies and 180 civil patients received treatment at the Dispensary. Twenty visits to estates were paid during the same period. At the time of my inspection eight coolies were awaiting attendance. No complaints.

BUILDING is in good order and clean. I suggest that a water tap with a Berkefeld pressure filter might be installed in the Dispensary room. At present water has to be taken from the kitchen tap and filtered. The grounds are not yet in tidy order, though an attempt has been made to keep them free of weeds.

POINTZ SPURWAY,

Visitor to the Nanu Oya Dispensary.

The CHAIRMAN: In Committee, gentlemen, on the motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, it was decided to recommend that a letter be sent to the P. C. M. O. asking at what period of the year these Visitors' Reports should be sent in so that they may be of assistance and fall in with the rules of the P.C.M.O.'s Department. Mr. Sydney Smith proposes that the reports should be made up to the end of July, but it was thought best that the P.C.M.O. should be written to and asked for a specific date. It was also decided to ask the P. C. M. O. that a Berkefeld pressure filter be adopted at the Dispensary at Nanu Oya.

This was agreed to.

MEDICAL OFFICERS AND MOTOR CYCLES.

The HON. SECRETARY reported having written to the P. C. M. O. stating that the Dimbula Planters' Association was very strongly of opinion that the Medical Officers in Dimbula, and more especially the Agrapatna D.M.O., should be provided with a motor cycle or motor cycles in order to make him or them more mobile when supervising two districts.

To this the P.C.M.O. replied on April 22nd, 1914, as follows:—

With reference to your letter of the 19th instant, I have the honour to inform you that Government does not provide motor bicycles to Medical Officers, but money will be advanced for the purchase of the same.

The CHAIRMAN said it was evident there had been a misunderstanding on the part of the P.C.M.O. Owing to the frequency with which the District Medical Officers, and particularly the D.M.O. for Agrapatnas, were called upon to make long journeys without leaving a substitute in charge, the Association had had to bring the matter to the notice of the P. C. M. O.'s Department. A good deal of correspondence had resulted and the Association had received no satisfaction, and no steps had been taken to provide a substitute to take the place of any of the D.M.O.'s when called

away to Court cases or for other purposes. As a means of surmounting the difficulty the Association had urged that Government should provide some means of mechanical conveyance which would help them to perform the work of two men on the frequent occasions they were called upon to do so. It was obvious the P. C. M. O. had not understood the Association's representation.

It was agreed to follow up the correspondence.

BATTA FOR WITNESSES IN THE SUPREME COURT.

With reference to this matter it was reported that all the information on the subject was in the hands of the Planting Representatives in Council.

TRUSTEES OF DISTRICT PROPERTY.

The CHAIRMAN explained that this matter had been in the hands of the Parent Association for some weeks past. He understood from Mr. G. C. Bliss in Committee that the sub-Committee which had charge of the matter had met and discussed the question with Mr. VanLangenberg and a report would be issued to the Parent Association.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

Mr. S. C. TRAILL wrote with reference to the proposed Irish Association and enclosed a number of printed circulars which he asked might be handed round at the next meeting of the Association. He also made a request that the Chairman might be good enough to say a few words for them at the meeting.

The circulars were passed round.

Mr. R. MYLIUS did not favour national Associations of this kind. "One Dominion and one flag" was his motto. They were all Britishers and he deprecated a division into national factions. Let them all keep together.

The CHAIRMAN said that after what had fallen from Mr. Mylius he did not feel competent to say anything. He did not think he felt particularly inclined to support the Irish Association against any other Association. They were all Britishers and he certainly thought there should be a union between the four different nations which formed the United Kingdom.

The HON. SECRETARY announced that in future one receipt for Rs. 22.50, being the amount of subscription Rs. 10 to the D.P.A. and Rs. 12.50 to the P.A. of Ceylon, would be issued by him. No separate receipt for the subscription of Rs. 12.50 to the P. A. of Ceylon would be issued by the Secretary of that body.

THE NUWARA ELIYA HOSPITAL.

The following resolution from the Nuwara Eliya Planters' Association was brought forward for support:—"That a list be opened for subscriptions (limited to Rs. 5) to collect funds for the purchase of articles, not provided by Government, which would greatly add to the comfort of patients in the Baker's Ward, Nuwara Eliya Hospital, and that the Uda Pussellawa, Maturatta, Dimbula and Ramboda P.A.'s be asked to open similar lists, and that when the lists are closed Government be asked to subscribe an equal amount."

In a covering letter the Hon. Secretary of the Nuwara Eliya P.A. explained that among the articles which it was

proposed to purchase were reading desks, four clocks, bed tables with tiled or opaline tops, invalid couch, flower vases, etc.

The CHAIRMAN said they were probably all aware that the Baker's Ward at the Nuwara Eliya Hospital was of great utility to Dimbula planters, more especially to those on the upper end of the District. Most of his hearers knew that a new ward was being erected by the Ceylon Nursing Association at Hatton, but the accommodation which this Ward would provide would be more or less limited. He did not think there could well be a more desirable object than that of putting the Baker's Ward into proper order and he hoped every member present at that meeting would subscribe. (Applause.)

A list, as suggested by the Nuwara Eliya Planters' Association, was opened.

LEAKAGE OF RICE.

The following interesting letter was read from Mr. L. E. Mercer: —

April 21st, 1914.

Kowlahena, Lindula,
DEAR WILKINSON,

I now enclose a copy of my letter in answer to one received from my Colombo agents re shortage of rice. This is only one instance where a leakage of rice has occurred, apparently during the time it was in the hands of the railway. I would beg to make the suggestion that the C. G. R. be written to and asked what permission may be given to measure and weigh up rice in the goods shed (as done formerly) on arrival and before delivery is taken off by the cart contractors. I also enclose a letter (which kindly return when finished with) in support of what I have already said that the Station-master will not allow rice to be measured up in the goods shed.

Yours Sincerely,

L. E. MERCER.

The enclosures mentioned, being merely of a confirmatory character, were not read.

Speaking to his letter Mr. MERCER emphasised the desirability of rice being measured in the goods shed before it was delivered to the cart contractors. This was always done formerly and he could not think why it had been stopped. It appeared evident to the speaker that thefts of rice were being committed in the goods shed before the rice was handed over to the cart contractors.

The CHAIRMAN: Are you satisfied that the shortage does take place in the goods shed at Talawakelle?

Mr. MERCER: Perfectly satisfied.

Mr. W. G. BEAUCHAMP said he had personally gone to Talawakelle on three occasions and measured the rice immediately upon arrival, and he had found the shortage quite as large or even larger than when it was not measured. (Laughter.)

A member expressed the opinion that the real secret of the trouble was that the Ceylon Government Railway would not weigh the rice in Colombo before it was despatched.

Mr. BEAUCHAMP further explained that when he measured the rice at Talawakelle he received 300 bushels on each occasion. On the first and second occasions he received 2 bushels short and on the third occasion 12 2-3 bushels short. The reason he took the trouble to measure the rice

personally was because the carriers wrote and complained when they were charged with a shortage before.

A member pointed out that 300 bushels was exactly a truck load and this being so the rice could not very well have been tampered with on the journey. Each truck was sealed in Colombo, and was not opened until rice had to be unloaded. As Mr. Beauchamp had weighed the rice immediately upon its arrival this would seem to be conclusive proof that the shortage occurred before the rice was loaded at Colombo. In the case of loads of 200 or 100 bushels of rice it was different and these loads might be tampered with on the journey.

METHOD OF MEASURING.

Mr. H. D. McMILLAN said a very great deal depended upon the speed at which the rice was poured into the measure. He contended that the chetty, if he so desired, could measure short measure every time by pouring slowly. If the rice was poured into the measure at a fast rate it settled down and more rice was required to fill the measure.

Mr. SYDNEY SMITH said that if the rice was properly weighed in Colombo before being loaded into the waggons they would soon come nearer to laying the responsibility for the shortage at the proper door.

The CHAIRMAN said it seemed to him, from all members had said on the subject, that the Association ought to approach the General Manager of the C. G. R. and ask him on what system rice was at present weighed at Colombo. If the Association did not consider that system satisfactory they could ask Mr. Greene to have the weighing of the rice conducted on proper lines. The total weight of every consignment, not only of rice but of other goods, should be sent with each consignment.

Some discussion followed as to what was the method of weighing rice adopted at Colombo.

One member thought only an occasional bag was weighed and, he added, the deficiency in a single bag would be infinitesimal.

Another member declared that the Railway authorities accepted the weights supplied by the Chetties.

Finally it was agreed that the Hon. Secretary should write to the General Manager, C.G.R., asking what system of weighing rice was adopted in Colombo, and suggesting that the total weight of each consignment of any commodity, and particularly rice, should be sent with such consignment.

RATS AND THE PLAGUE.

Under the heading of plague the CHAIRMAN said he thought it would be a good precaution to adopt if members of the Association offered so much per head for rats caught on their estates. Other districts had started a rat killing campaign and he presumed many members of the Dimbula Association had followed suit. He did not know the feeling of the meeting, but his own opinion was that 10 cents per rat was rather a large sum to pay and he would suggest that every estate should pay 2½ cents per rat.

The Hon. SECRETARY agreed with the Chairman that 10 cents per rat was a large sum. At 2½ cents per rat

he had had 435 rats brought to him. He did not know why other estates were paying 10 cents per rat.

EUROPEAN DOCTOR SCHEME.

Under this heading the Chairman said he wished to mention that at a meeting of the sub-Committee that morning a letter from the Chairman of the Dikoya P.A. was read asking whether Dr. Smartt might act in the Dikoya, Bogawantalawa and Maskeliya Districts until his partner Dr. Nicol come out to Ceylon next August. Dr. Smartt had been present at that sub-Committee and the opinion was expressed that Dr. Smartt should be allowed to act. However, it had been made clear to Dr. Smartt that Dimbula claims came first.

The meeting adopted the recommendation of the sub-Committee.

THE DOCTOR'S BUNGALOW.

With regard to the doctor's bungalow the CHAIRMAN said Mr. C. L. Bliss, who was supervising the work, had made very good progress indeed. They would remember that at the last meeting it was agreed that the old bungalow should be sold by public auction. The bungalow was not sold at the sale, but a subsequent offer of Rs. 500 was received and a still later offer of Rs. 600 was closed with. The money had been collected. The speaker added the information that only part of the old bungalow was sold for this sum. The bed stone work, the iron work, etc., were all being utilised in the erection of the new building. Mr. Hamilton Harding expressed the hope that those who had not already subscribed to the doctor's bungalow would see their way to do so before the bungalow was handed over. It was a pity that all proprietors had not been unanimous in subscribing. There were 28 estates which had not so far subscribed, of which 13 had promised to or might subscribe. He took this opportunity of reminding those concerned that he thought it very undesirable that the doctor should know that there were still some standing out and not paying towards his house, and he only hoped they would reconsider the matter before next September.

A question was asked as to when it was likely that the new bungalow would be finished, and Mr. C. L. Bliss replied that he had seen Mr. McDonald of Tillicoultry, who had assured him that the contract of five months would not be exceeded under ordinary circumstances.

BO-PATALAWA ROAD.

With reference to the above road the HON. SECRETARY read the following letter:—

Bogawantalawa, April 6th, 1914.

BO-PATALAWA ROAD.

DEAR WILKINSON,

Many thanks for your letter of the 2nd instant. The total cost of repairing the above road will come to Rs. 360. The contractor has now done about five miles and has made a very good job of it. He will finish the whole thing this week, so I will be obliged if you will send me a cheque for your share, viz., Rs. 180, as soon as possible as at present I have had to finance the contractor.

Yours Sincerely,
G. H. SPARKES.

The CHAIRMAN explained that since the last meeting Mr. Sparkes had undertaken to put the Bo-Patalawa road in order. The Association had been authorised to spend Rs. 200. It was proposed that the Rs. 20 remaining over should be devoted to repairs to the two bridges between Holmwood and the Patnas. The total cost of the repairs was estimated at Rs. 50; the P.R.C. had promised to give Rs. 20, and, if the Association gave Rs. 20, the Superintendent of Holmwood had promised to pay any balance over and above that.

This was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said he wished to take that opportunity of telling members—and probably they would pass the information on to their friends—that the two bridges which were crossed when passing through the jungle after leaving the Holmwood tea and going to the Patnas were unsafe for horses. The Superintendent of Holmwood had pulled up some of the planks of one of the bridges and although the road was repaired through the patnas it was not open for traffic yet. A notice would be sent round to all members of the Association when the road was put in proper order.

Mr. R. MYLIUS proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Sparkes for the trouble he had taken over that road.

This was seconded and enthusiastically carried.

PRUNINGS AND ROADSIDE DRAINS.

The CHAIRMAN said that at the last meeting the D.E. Dimbula, under the heading of roads, called attention to the fact that some estates occasionally left prunings and such like matter lying in the roadside drains. It was no necessary for the speaker to dwell upon that subject. They all knew as well as he did that if the roadside drains were blocked when heavy rains were experienced an immense amount of damage to roads and to property was almost bound to result. It was therefore important that as soon as any such work was completed, pruning and such like matter should be cleared up with as little delay as possible.

Motor Transport and the Roads.

OFFICIAL ESTIMATE OF LAND REQUIRED FOR IMPROVING THE TALAWAKELLE-NANU OYA ROAD.

The following important correspondence on the above subject was read:—

IMPROVEMENT OF TALAWAKELLE-NANU OYA ROAD FOR MOTOR TRAFFIC.

Kachcheri, Nuwara Eliya.

April 20th, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,

Dimbula P.A., Dimbula.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith copy of letter No. 407 of the 9th instant, from the Hon. the Government Agent, Central Province, Kandy, on the above subject and to ask you to kindly obtain and forward the necessary undertaking from each estate concerned.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
A. W. SEYMOUR.
Assistant Government Agent.

The letter (No. 426) referred to :—
IMPROVEMENT OF TALAWAKELLE-NANU OYA ROAD FOR MOTOR TRAFFIC.
THE ASSISTANT GOVERNMENT AGENT,
Nuwara Eliya.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from the Colonial Secretary to the Director of Public Works regarding the improvement of the Talawakelle-Nanu Oya road together with a statement of the land required, and to request you to try to arrange the matter through the Planters' Association.

(2) The Provincial Engineer states that where the extent of the land required on certain quarter miles is omitted it will not be necessary to cut into tea as the road can be widened by cutting back corners already benched.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

C. H. COLLINS,
For Government Agent, C. P.

Copy of letter (No. 84) referred to by Mr. Collins :—
PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT OF CERTAIN ROADS TO MAKE THEM SUITABLE
FOR MOTOR TRAFFIC.

Colonial Secretary's Office.
Colombo, January 26th, 1914.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No. 30 of the 14th January regarding the above subject, I am directed to state that the improvement of the Talawakelle-Nanuoya (principal) road must be conditional on the estates concerned undertaking to give the required land free, and to refrain from claiming compensation for damage. The Government Agent will be asked to inform the planters accordingly.

(2.) As regards the general principle, I am to add that priority should be given to the widening of the roads for which the estates concerned give land free and do not claim compensation for spoil.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
M. A. YOUNG,
For Colonial Secretary.

The statement of land required, which was enclosed, was as below :—

Mile.	½ Mile.	Name of Estate.	Extent of land in perches.	Nature of filling, etc.
29th 1st qtr.		Lameliere	3 8	per cent rock and boulders, 92 per cent earth
29th 2nd qtr.		do	2½	15 per cent rock and boulders, 85 per cent earth
29th 3rd qtr.		Ritnagiriya	2½	15 per cent rock and boulders, 85 per cent earth
29th 4th qtr.		do	2½	14 per cent rock and boulders, 86 per cent earth
30th 1st qtr.		Somerset	2½	12 per cent rock and boulders, 88 per cent earth
30th 2nd qtr.		do	2½	50 per cent rock and boulders, 50 per cent earth
30th 3rd qtr.		do	3	Earth
30th 4th qtr.		Langdale	3½	do
31st 1st qtr.		do	2½	do
31st 2nd qtr.		do	3	do
31st 3rd qtr.		do	3	25 per cent decomposed rock, 75 per cent earth
31st 4th qtr.		do	3	Earth
32nd 1st qtr.		Dambagastalawa	2½	do
32nd 2nd qtr.		do	3½	do
32nd 3rd qtr.		Avoca	3½	do
32nd 4th qtr.		do	3½	do
33rd 1st qtr.		do	2½	do
33rd 2nd qtr.		Lorne	2½	do
34rd 3rd qtr.		do	3½	do
34th 1st qtr.		do	3½	do
34th 2nd qtr.		do	3½	do
34th 3rd qtr.		Abbotsford	3	do
35th 1st qtr.		do	2½	20 per cent rock and boulders, 80 per cent earth
35th 2nd qtr.		Deesford	2½	Earth
35th 3rd qtr.		do	3	do
35th 4th qtr.		do	2½	do
36th 1st qtr.		do	3	do
36th 2nd qtr.		do	3	do
36th 3rd qtr.		Clarendon	2½	do
36th 4th qtr.		do	2½	do
37th 1st qtr.		do	2½	10 per cent boulders and rock, 90 per cent earth
37th 2nd qtr.		Easdale	2½	do
37th 3rd qtr.		do	2½	do
37th 4th qtr.		Edinburgh	2½	Earth
38th 1st qtr.		do	3	10 per cent boulders and rock, 90 per cent earth
38th 2nd qtr.		do	3	do
38th 3rd qtr.		do	3	do
38th 4th qtr.		do	3	do
24th 3rd qtr.		Talawakelle	3	10 per cent rock and boulder, 90 per cent earth.
24th 4th qtr.		Middleton	2½	do
25th 1st qtr.		do	2½	Earth
25th 2nd qtr.		Coombwood	2½	do
25th 3rd qtr.		Logie	3	do
25th 4th qtr.		do	2½	do
26th 2nd qtr.		Bearwell	3	do
26th 3rd qtr.		do	2½	do
26th 4th qtr.		do	3	do
27th 1st qtr.		Belgravia	3	25 per cent rock, 75 per cent earth
27th 2nd qtr.		do	3	do
27th 3rd qtr.		Lindale	3	Earth
27th 4th qtr.		do	2½	do
28th 1st qtr.		do	3½	7 per cent rock and boulders, 93 per cent earth
28th 2nd qtr.		Matakele	2½	Earth
28th 3rd qtr.		Lameliere	2½	do
28th 4th qtr.		do	1	do

The CHAIRMAN: I hope every member of this Association will help the District Engineer as far as possible in carrying out this work and will not oppose the taking over of these portions of land bordering the main road from Lindula to Nanu Oya. A list of the portions of land required will be prepared and circulated.

Mr. BAILLIE HAMILTON: Will Superintendents have any say as to where the crossings are to be?

The CHAIRMAN said he did not think he had been consulted as to that, but thought that possibly if the superintendent of any estate met the D.E. an amicable settlement on that matter might be arrived at.

Mr. MACBRIDE said he had been over the whole length of the road and had prepared a list of passing places at what he considered the most suitable points at quarter mile distances. He was not bound to keep to that list exactly, but was permitted to use his discretion.

Mr. GRAEME SINCLAIR asked the D.E. whether he thought there was any chance of the very bad corners underneath the doctor's bungalow ever being straightened out. He meant the corners halfway down the hill to Mr. Wilkinson's bungalow; they had been widened on the outside, but that was not of very much use. Was there any chance of the road being widened on the inside?

Mr. MACBRIDE said that would be a matter for the 1914-15 Supply Bill. He did not think there was any possibility of this being done at once.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that Mr. MacBride seemed to have his eye on every mortal thing in the district and he hoped to see a great deal of improvement in the roads throughout the district at the end of the year.

GORGE VALLEY AND WALAHA VALLEY.

A letter from the Branch Roads Local Committee under date March 25th was read. The letter was to the effect that almost all the estates in the Gorge Valley and Walaha Valley had agreed to give land free and not to claim compensation for spoil. Consequently the roads were to be improved to take lorries of six tons. Only lorries of three tons were allowed over these roads at present.

The CHAIRMAN said until the improvements had been carried out, according to the "Government Gazette" of April 3rd, 1914, lorries of 6 tons would be allowed to run on the Lindula and Agras road, and lorries of only 3 tons on the Gorge Valley and Walaha Valley.

Mr. HUGHES asked whether the improvements included bridges and the reply was understood to be in the affirmative.

LORRIES IN PROSPECT.

The CHAIRMAN said that with regard to motor lorry traffic on the main road only one lorry was running at present and this lorry had been on the road for three weeks on account of tyre trouble. He saw the lorry was on the road again that day (Monday) and he hoped it would continue to run. Another lorry was being imported by cart contractors and was expected in the course of a month. The Talawakelle Engineering Works expected to have three lorries on the road in the course of three weeks or a month. At the beginning of June he hoped to be able to record that five or six lorries would be at work on the roads in the Agras. (Applause.)

A member suggested that all these lorries should be fitted with horns giving some distinctive warning. At the

present time one did not know what was coming round the corner. (Laughter.)

Mr. J. FERGUSON: As one who rides a horse I may say that I can always hear a motor lorry, but I do not always hear a motor car. (Laughter.)

DIMBULA HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

On the above subject the Hon. Secretary reported having written to the Hon. the P.C.M.O. as follows:—

February 14th, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose a copy of the annual report of this Association for 1913 and to draw your attention to pages 10, 11 and 12, which contain the reports of the unofficial Hospital Visitors of the District and would ask you in particular to note what is said with regard to the Lindula Hospital in connection with:

- (1) A covered passage to the Operating Theatre.
- (2) The fly proof protections for kitchens and latrine.
- (3) Tar upon the cart roads in front of the Hospitals.
- (4) The site of the proposed new female ward and
- (5) The quarters provided for the visiting Apothecary, the permanent Apothecary and the steward.

I think you will agree that the Agrapatnas Dispensary report (wherein references are made to the buildings) calls for very immediate attention.

With regard to the proposed new female ward I might state that the site was visited on the 2nd inst., by the Chairman of this Association, one of the Hospital Visitors and myself. We were led to understand that the Provincial Engineer had visited the Hospital on a day when the D.M.O. was absent. We consider that the site above the cart road would not have been selected by a Government Medical Officer partly because the dust nuisance at this spot is excessive, but chiefly because the site is far removed from the other native wards and would prevent efficient administration very much. We would very strongly urge that the latrines annexed to the present female ward should be moved across the big drain running west to east down to the river, and that the proposed new female ward be erected where these latrines now stand below the cart road.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
HUNTLEY WILKINSON.

On March 23rd the P.C.M.O. wrote: "I have the honour to inform you that the Provincial Engineer, Central Province, reports that he spent a very long time with the District Medical Officer at the site of the new female ward in question and looked into every possible aspect of the question, from the construction and medical point of view, and finally decided on the site now adopted."

At this the matter was temporarily allowed to rest.

An Agras Hospital.

INTERESTING ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN.

The next business on the Agenda was the proposed Agras Hospital. The CHAIRMAN said "With regard to the proposed erection of a female ward at Lindula Hospital, although I have not got it in writing, I think I can tell you that for the present the proposed extension has been stopped. Whether it has been stopped permanently or not I cannot say; that will all depend upon circumstances. There is a proposal to build a new Agras Hospital of some 24 beds possibly more or less." The Chairman then proceeded to explain what had led up to this particular point. The pr

prietors of Sutton had given one month's notice to the P.C.M.O.'s Department that they required the land at present occupied by the dispensary and D.M.O.'s house in the Agra Patnas. On receiving notice of this the speaker was instrumental in helping to persuade the superintendent of Sutton (Mr. F. C. Smith) to allow the Department to go on leasing these buildings for a further period.

The CHAIRMAN continued "I took Mr. Bliss into my confidence and asked him whether he could propose some site on the C.T.P.'s Glen Lyon estate for the purpose of building a new Agra Hospital. I saw the P.C.M.O. in Colombo and he agreed that a new hospital would be a very good thing. Mr. Bliss and I looked out for a site close to the Glen Lyon Bridge, but through some misunderstanding the proprietor of the property on which the site stands, could not see his way to do anything in the matter until the P.C.M.O. had visited the spot and approved the site." The speaker then wrote to the P.C.M.O. and invited him to come up and visit the proposed site. If the site was approved of the Agra Hospital would be a good proposition. This was not the first time the Agra Hospital question had come up for consideration. As far back as 25 years ago an Agra Hospital had been agitated for but it had always been shelved. "Some years ago the matter was brought up again but for some good reasons of his own, no doubt, the P.C.M.O. could not see eye to eye with us. But I am very glad to say that at present he is very much in favour of a new Agra hospital, and hopes that by building it he will be able to some extent to relieve the pressure at the Lindula hospital. I am not at liberty to tell you the sum of money that hospital will probably cost, as it was, in the rough estimate, mentioned to me privately, but it is our intention later on—if the matter receives approbation—to ask Government to relegate the money set aside for the extension of the female ward at Lindula for the purposes of commencing work on the Agra new hospital. The estimate, I believe, is now being drawn up, and it is a question now of settling upon a site. I hope I may take it that this Association is in favour of it. I will ask the Secretary to read a letter of the 7th April on the subject from the Colonial Secretary's Office.

LETTER FROM GOVERNMENT.

The letter was as follows:—

AGRA PATNA'S DISPENSARY AND MEDICAL QUARTERS.

Colonial Secretary's Office.

April 7th, 1914.

Sir,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter dated March 17th, 1914, relative to the above subject, I am directed to forward the enclosed copy of a resolution passed at the meeting of the Medical Wants Committee held on March 30th, 1914, and to request you to be so good as to furnish the Committee with the views of your Association on the subject.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
for the Colonial Secretary.

Resolution referred to:—

Read letters from the P.C.M.O. and the Chairman, Dimbula P.A. regarding the construction of a dispensary, medical officer's quarters and apothecary's quarters at Agra Patnas, the

Medical Department having received notice to quit the present building. It was resolved to inform the Dimbula P.A. that the Committee are of opinion that the situation would be best met by the construction of a small hospital, at Agra Patnas, which would incidentally make it unnecessary to extend the female ward of the Lindula hospital, and that the Association be requested to furnish the Committee with their views on the subject.

The CHAIRMAN: I may say that with regard to the agents of Sutton, I wrote to Mr. F. C. Smith and sent him a copy of this letter and a copy of the resolution and requested him to forward them on to his agents. Although he was rather anxious to begin operations on the site I am glad to see that the agents have given us further time to put this new Agra hospital and D. M. O.'s quarters into order.

Mr. GRAEME SINCLAIR: Do I understand that the female ward extension at Lindula is going to be shelved?

The CHAIRMAN: Temporarily, I believe.

As to when the building operations were likely to commence the CHAIRMAN said he had written to the attorney of the company owning the site pointing out the urgency of the matter and asking him, as a special concession, to allow the work to be commenced while the land was in dispute.

The CHAIRMAN said that when he heard there was a chance of an Agra hospital being built he immediately acted upon his own, being quite positive that the members in the Agra would support him in anything he might do to bring about the erection of a hospital in that part of the district.

FLOOD DAMAGES.

The CHAIRMAN said that with regard to flood damages he was able to report that at a meeting of the District Road Committee which he had attended the previous Saturday the Chairman of that Committee was able to report that H. E. the Governor had decided that Rs. 15,000 be given as a special grant to the District Road Committee for flood damages in the Revenue District of Nuwara Eliya. The speaker had much pleasure in reporting that out of the Rs. 15,000, Rs. 7,000 had been allocated to Dimbula. This sum of Rs. 7,000 was to be utilised as follows:—Waltrim Bridge, Rs. 2,000; Fankerton Bridge, Rs. 1,500; Agra Uva Bridge, Rs. 2,500; and Inverness, Rs. 1,000.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought the meeting might well convey a vote of thanks to Government indirectly, through the D.R.C., for having granted this money. He thought at one time that they were not likely to get much. Dimbula had received nearly one half of the total amount granted by Government, and he informed the meeting that he knew of damage done to many smaller bridges, etc., in other districts which had not been awarded a penny. Dimbula had pressed very hard and had got all they had asked for. There was no chance whatever of Dimbula getting another penny.

A MEMBER asked what was the total extent of the damage to roads and bridges in the district.

The SECRETARY replied that the total extent of the flood damage in the district, so far as he had been able to collect details, was Rs. 158,000.

EXCISE MATTERS.

The CHAIRMAN said the next matter on the agenda was Excise. This was a matter which interested a great many people not only in Dimbula, but throughout the whole island. He was present at the Advisory Committee meeting at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. There were, in all, ten taverns in the Revenue District of Nuwara Eliya and, at present, there were three taverns in the Dimbula district. The total consumption of arrack throughout the whole of the Revenue District was 30,000 gallons. The three taverns in Dimbula sold 15,071 gallons or about one half of the total. It was proposed at this meeting that two extra taverns should be opened in Dimbula—one at Lindula and the other at Langdale or thereabouts. The speaker strongly objected to both suggested taverns, and a proposal was then brought forward that a tavern might be opened in Nanuoya town. The speaker opposed this also, but said that of the three evils he would rather withdraw his opposition to the tavern at Nanuoya. Under no conditions, however, would he withdraw his opposition to any suggested taverns at Lindula, Langdale or Somerset. He pointed out to the meeting that the approximate distance between the arrack taverns at present was nine miles and that it was inadvisable to decrease the distances between them. In support of this he pointed out that the three Dimbula taverns already sold one half of the total amount of arrack sold by the ten taverns in the whole Excise District. If any further taverns were opened in Dimbula it would tend to further drunkenness and crime. "I think I have heard it mentioned, and I know from personal experience, that there has been a great deal of illicit sale of arrack on estates in Dimbula and, with a view to putting a stop to this, I asked the Chairman of the Excise Advisory Committee at that meeting to appoint an inspector for this particular district, having elicited the fact that hitherto no inspector whatever had been stationed in this district although we had every right to expect it. Since that inspector has been appointed no fewer than two or three convictions have been obtained and heavy fines imposed. I hope what I did commends itself to you." (Hear, hear.)

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The circular letter from the Ceylon Planters' Association enclosing copy of proposed regulations framed by Government with a view to preventing the spread of shot-hole borer was read.

The CHAIRMAN said he need hardly point out to the meeting the fact that that document had a far-reaching effect and needed careful consideration.

The proposed regulations having been read and tabled for inspection, it was agreed to support the proposals.

TALAWAKELLE-WATAGODA ROAD.

With reference to the above road a letter was read from Mr. A. W. Seymour, A. G. A., enclosing a copy of a communication received by him from Mr. S. H. Bower (District Engineer, Pussellawa) stating that it would take

approximately nine months from date of writing (February 6th, 1914), to complete the work on the Talawakelle-Watagoda Road.

The CHAIRMAN said this matter was brought forward in Committee, and it was decided that in view of his being able to tell the Committee that he had met a member of the Pundaluoya Association, who had stated that any amount of labour was to be had in that district, the Director of Public Works be written to asking him whether this 14 miles of road could not be completed sooner. Their own District Engineer had completed his part of the road up to Watagoda factory turn off or thereabouts. The road was to have been opened, the Chairman added, in 1913.

It was agreed to write to the D.P.W. and ask him to hasten the completion of the road.

TELEPHONES.

The CHAIRMAN: In regard to telephones I mentioned in Committee just now that I knew there was a great deal of annoyance and inconvenience caused in the district owing to the present bad working of the telephones. It was decided that a general meeting of subscribers should be called almost immediately by the Secretary of the Telephones with a view to discussing the whole question.—Agreed.

A MEMBER asked if anyone had any information as to whether an exchange was to be established at Nanuoya.

Mr. COLLINSON said he understood that if six estates subscribed the matter would be considered. He had heard nothing further.

CHURCH MATTERS.

The CHAIRMAN explained that in Committee they had considered letters from the Chaplain for certain improvements to the parsonage. The Chaplain asked for an extra bath room and also that the floor of the garage might be cemented.

Mr. HAMILTON HARDING went on to explain that the Chaplain was considering the question of opening a small school for purely European boys and intended converting the garage building into a school-room. The Committee recommended that the Chaplain should be given the cementing of the garage floor, but, owing to previous expenditure on the garage this year, they could not recommend another bath-room at present.—Agreed.

FARQUHARSON TRUST FUND.

The CHAIRMAN said they had had a good deal of difficulty in regard to the transfer of the Farquharson Trust Fund. It was now handed over however.

The CHAPLAIN announced that a faculty had been issued by the Bishop for the erection of a brass altar rail to the memory of Mrs. Walter Agar in Lindula Church.

Mr. SYDNEY SMITH thought they ought to be careful Lindula Church was not a consecrated church, but was a trust held by the Church of England and by Nonconformist bodies. The fact that a faculty had been granted would be entered in the church records and might be quoted as precedent in the future.

The CHAIRMAN thought inquiries ought to be made on this point.

Mr. MEGGET thought the whole idea of granting a faculty was to place upon record the fact that the rail was a memorial and thus prevent its possible future removal from the Church.

FEES FOR MARRIAGES, ETC.

The CHAIRMAN said the Church Wardens had gone into the question of the fees for marriages, christenings, burials and the like, and a scale of fees had now been fixed. The Hon. Secretary would be having slips printed and these would be circulated.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the business.

KNUCKLES, KELEBOKKA AND PANWILA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting of the above Association was held in the P.W.D. Bungalow at Madulkelle on Thursday, April 30th, at 1-30 p.m. Those present were Messrs. T. Y. Wright (Chairman), J. Greig, J. G. Napier, G. W. Hunter-Blair, J. Hemsted, C. D. Hunt, J. P. Hortin and H. Hopwood (Hon. Secretary).

This was followed at 2 p.m. by a general meeting at which the following also were present in addition to the above:—Messrs. H. Rohde, G. G. Mackwood, E. C. Scott, R. Hancock, F. L. Reeves, R. C. F. Nailer, A. R. Tarbett, G. Taubman, S. F. Greig, A. H. S. Clarke and E. D. Constant (visitor).

The Hon. Secretary read the notice calling the meeting and also a letter from Mr. E. R. Cox regretting his inability to attend.

The minutes of the last meeting were duly confirmed.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

The CHAIRMAN introduced this subject with the following remarks:—"This matter has not been allowed to lapse. Some members of the sub-Committee met Mr. Cooper, the Resident Engineer of Nanuoya, at Wattegama station and consulted with him regarding the proposed ropeway entering the goods-shed. Mr. Cooper said that there would be no objection as long as a minimum clearance of twenty feet was guaranteed between the bottom of the load and the rails. Official confirmation of this has not yet been received. Mr. Colquhoun of the Eastern Produce & Estates Co., Ltd., has been at Galphele lately and he showed great interest in the scheme. He went over the line roughly and, in conversation afterwards, he told me that the line would be roughly thirteen miles in length and that it could certainly be constructed at an outside cost of £20,000, the upkeep of the line, too, would be considerably less than the cost of carting."

Continuing, the Chairman said: "A survey of the route, with the necessary plans and estimates, will cost about Rs. 2,000, and until this is guaranteed by estates in the district we are at a standstill. The Hon. Secretary has

worked out, on a mileage and acreage basis, the proportion of the cost to be borne by each estate, and I hope, gentlemen, that estate proprietors will come forward and guarantee this amount. I think it would be advisable to write to Government and ask them, if figures are placed before them showing that this would be a payable proposition, whether (1) they would erect and work the ropeway, or (2) would they advance the money at a reasonable interest on the guarantee of estates that they will use the ropeway if erected. Should Government refuse this request then we must get the survey made, and, on estimates being made up, we must circularise estates and see if they will join in the cost of erection and support the ropeway when erected. The present scheme is for a main line from Wattegama towards Knuckles, and a branch line from somewhere near St. John's Hill to Catragalla."

Mr. NAPIER asked for the Honorary Secretary's figures as to the proportionate cost of the survey, etc., to each estate, and these were read.

Mr. ROHDE proposed that the amount required for the survey should be obtained by all concerned paying in a fixed figure, instead of a proportionate amount. This was seconded by Mr. REEVES.

Mr. HUNTER BLAIR disagreed with Mr. Rohde's resolution and said that it was only natural that estates of a bigger acreage and longer transport should pay more than estates which were smaller and with only a short transport.

On Mr. Rohde's resolution being put to the meeting, it was defeated by seven votes to four.

It was finally resolved that the necessary amount should be raised on the basis of the figures read out by the Honorary Secretary.

It was also decided to write to Government in accordance with the Chairman's suggestion.

A letter from the E. P. & E. Co., Ltd., regarding the cost of the survey was put before the meeting, as also was a letter from Mr. Hemsted in which he asked for figures to put before a third person with a view to carrying the scheme forward.

Mr. Hemsted was asked if he could give any further information, but he replied that he had heard nothing more.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

Under this heading the Hon. Secretary put forward some correspondence with the Postmaster-General which followed a resolution passed at the last meeting requesting that the Madulkelle Post Office be kept open for telegraphic business till 8 p.m.

The Postmaster-General refused the Association's request, but on Mr. Napier's suggestion it was decided to write once again and point out that the office used to be open till that hour.

ROADS.

Introducing this subject the CHAIRMAN remarked that certain portions of the road were in a very bad condition, but nothing could be done until the rain came, and it would be as well to wait and see what the new District Engineer would do when he had the chance before taking any action.

Mr. NAPIER remarked that he hoped that the steam-roller at present working near Wattagama would come further up the district.

Mr. HUNT remarked that he thought the present bad condition of the road was partly due to the steam-roller having been used on the road last year, the roller being too heavy for the very poor quality of metal put down, and the metal was quickly ground into dust.

The HON. SECRETARY read some correspondence with the Provincial Road Committee in relation to the running of motor lorries on the upper part of the road as this is a grant-in-aid road.

It was decided to write to the Director of Public Works on the subject, as the Provincial Road Committee seemed undecided.

Mr. GREIG proposed that Government be asked to take over that portion of the road between Kelebokka and Cabragalla, this being at present a grant-in-aid road.

This was seconded by Mr. HUNTER BLAIR and carried.

LIQUID FUEL.

Speaking on this matter, the CHAIRMAN said: "As you know, we have again approached Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. about an installation at Wattagama. The figures we have collected are as follows:—Liquid fuel 62,710 gallons, kerosine oil 9,041 gallons, petrol 2,652 gallons.

These figures are the yearly consumption of the district and, I think, justify us in asking for an installation. The Hon. Secretary, after a lot of trouble in getting figures, drafted a letter to Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. Their answer is not at all satisfactory, and in returning the Hon. Secretary's letter appears somewhat discourteous. This Company has practically got a monopoly, and we should, I think, appeal to Government to help us in the matter. At present there is rinderpest in Kandy; we have to get our supplies from there and are, therefore, running a great risk of infection.

Mr. HUNTER BLAIR moved that Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. be written to asking for the minimum consumption required for an installation at Wattagama.

This was seconded by Mr. NAPIER and carried.

COMMITTEES.

Under this heading the following resolution was brought forward by Mr. HUNTER BLAIR:—"That any Committee member not attending two successive meetings shall *"ipso facto"* cease to be a member of that Committee."

Introducing his resolution, Mr. HUNTER BLAIR remarked that the resolution spoke for itself, and he thought that it would be a good thing to have this rule. If a Committee member had not the time to attend meetings then it would be better to have people on the Committee who could attend.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. HOPWOOD.

Mr. CLARKE spoke against the resolution and said it was unnecessary.

On the motion being put to the meeting it was carried by 12 votes to one.

The CHAIRMAN then mentioned that the number of representatives this Association had on the Kandy Committee had been brought up at a Committee meeting in Kandy, and apparently they had one too many. This had to be put right, and he suggested that the names of the three members at present on the Kandy Committee should be either balloted or drawn for. He favoured the latter as it was quicker.

Mr. CLARKE objected to drawing and moved that a ballot be taken. This met with no support, and the names were drawn, resulting in Mr. Hunter-Blair's name being deleted.

Concerning telephones, the only business was to elect a member of the Committee in the place of Mr. Blacklaw, and the CHAIRMAN suggested Mr. Rohde.

Mr. HUNT suggested that the superintendent of the estate should be elected instead of an individual name, and this was agreed to.

The resolution from the Badulla P. A. regarding reservations met with the support of the meeting.

Various correspondence was read, including a letter from the C. P. A. re shot-hole borer, and a reply as follows had been sent to the C. P. A.:—

In reply to your letter of the 24th ultimo covering the proposed regulations re shot-hole borer I am directed by the Chairman of my Association to inform you that though everyone will agree that some regulations are required, there appear to be one or two points that require further investigation before the proposed regulations are issued:—

1. Has it ever been definitely ascertained that the pest cannot be carried by the transport of leaf from badly affected areas?

2. Plants under two years old do not appear to be subject to attack from the pest as the stem of the plant up to that age appears to be too small for the borer to operate on. That being so, is there any need to include plants less than 18 months or two years old in the regulations?

3. If these regulations are passed what provision will be made for the fulfilling any existing contracts to supply tea plants that have been entered into by estates on which the pest may be found?

Unless some such provisions is made the contracting estate might be liable for breach of contract.

A letter from the Government Agent, C.P., re rinderpest was read.

A letter from His Excellency the Governor's Private Secretary notifying that His Excellency the Governor and Lady Chalmers would be pleased to visit the district when next in Kandy was much appreciated.

A letter from Mr. Traill re the Irish Association was read, and it was decided to refer the matter to Mr. Sealy.

Letters from the Bishop of Colombo and the Rev. C. T. Weston concerning the Matale and North Kandy districts chaplaincy caused some discussion. Mr. S. F. Greig gave the meeting the figures he had collected. It was decided to send those figures to the Bishop and Mr. Weston.

The CHAIRMAN moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Greig and Mr. Hunter-Blair for the trouble they had taken, which was carried unanimously.

This was all the business, and a vote of thanks to the chair brought the meeting to a close.

H. HOPWOOD,

Hon. Secretary.

KOTMALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Kotmale Planters' Association was held on Thursday (April 30th) at the Tennis Club Pavilion at 2-30 p.m. with Mr. M. S. Milne as Chairman. In view of the intended lecture by Dr. E. Langley Hunt on Sanitation on Estates, a good many members and a few visitors as well were present. Among them were:—Messrs. A. Kennedy, D. C. Mortimer, R. M. Kelly, A. H. Hall, M. D. McNeill, H. G. Brown, R. C. Roddam, C. H. Ayscough, F. C. Carmichael, C. W. Bovy-Lysterg, C. Bennett, J. W. Bennett, R. E. Martin, G. C. M. Cartwright, G. L. Chapell, F. R. Bissett, R. E. H. Dickinson and R. G. Thompson (Hon. Secretary). Letters expressing regret at being unable to attend were read from Messrs. Richardson and Bain.

Mr. M. S. MILNE, the newly-appointed Chairman in the place of Mr. A. J. Austin Dickson, addressed the meeting. "I do not," he said, "pretend to do better than my predecessors, but I should like to see some useful work being done by this Association." He suggested that in order to realize this desire he would like to invite, with the approval of the members, leading men in various branches of tea planting, to attend the meetings and give the members of the Association the benefit of their views. Thereby he said members would learn, if not something to avoid, something to adopt. He expressed his regret at the absence of Dr. E. Langley Hunt, who had been called away elsewhere.

BUSINESS.

The following letters were read:—

From the Chairman, D. R. C., Nuwara Eliya, to the Hon. Secretary, Kotmale P. A.

GOOROOKOYA-ILLUKHELLA ROAD.

DEAR SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that a vote of Rs. 100 was voted for the upkeep of the above roads for the current year, at a meeting of this Committee held on the 2nd instant and to request that you will be good enough to spend it to the best advantage.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
CHAIRMAN,
D. R. C.

(2) A letter re Road Tax, from the A.G.A., Nuwara Eliya—already published with Nuwara Eliya P. A. proceedings.

Kotmale, P.A. Tyspane,
Kotmale, February 8th, 1914.

MY DEAR MILNE,

District Road (minor) Kotmale receives gigantic sum of Rs. 175 per annum from the D. R. C. for the upkeep of minor roads. Goorookoya-Illukhella Rs. 100, Nalaboda-Dimbula gap Rs. 75. The source of revenue is the annual tax of Re. 1.50 per head of other than Tamil-labourers. Towards this how much does the district of Kotmale contribute? I should say greatly in excess of Rs. 175. From Tyspane alone I have just paid Rs. 25. What do you say to collecting figures showing how much the districts contribute.

Yours Sincerely,
J. S. RICHARDSON,

Re the Rs. 100 for the upkeep of Goorookoya—Illukhella road, Mr. Mortimer was asked to take over this amount and spend on the upkeep. Mr. Mortimer being agreeable the following resolution was passed:—

"That Mr. Mortimer be asked to spend the grant of Rs. 100 on the Goorookoya-Illukhella Road."—Carried unanimously.

THE BELTON ROAD.

Mr. THOMPSON said the Belton road is in very bad order.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that more money should be agitated for and that the Secretary be asked to write to the District Road Committee. Money collected by the villagers did not come to the Association.

Mr. Ayscough strongly urged immediate attention to Doombagastalawa Road from the paddy field going to Meddecombra via his bungalow.

Mr. THOMPSON confirming Mr. Ayscough said he was nearly killed one day on this road.

After further discussion it was resolved that Government be asked for a grant for this road.

LETTER FROM DR. E. LANGLEY HUNT.

Colombo, April 25th, 1914.

The SECRETARY then read the following:—

DEAR MR. THOMPSON,

I regret extremely that under instructions from the P.C.M.O. I must cancel my visit to the Kotmale district. Mr. Wickliffe Rose, Director of the Rockefeller International Health Commission, arrived in the Island this morning, and I have been detailed to render him every assistance in his investigations. Will you please convey to the Chairman and members of your Association, my apologies for not addressing them as I had intended on the 30th, and the hope that it is only a pleasure deferred.

Sincerely yours,
E. LANGLEY HUNT.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following were read by the Secretary and dealt with in rotation.

S. Clive's Estate,
Nawalapitiya, April 20th, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kotmale P.A., Hangran Oya.
TELEPHONES.

DEAR SIR,

I am instructed to write to you to know if you would be so good as to put forward at your next meeting a Joint Telephone Scheme in connection with this district.

Yours faithfully,
HON. SECRETARY,
A. P. A.

Kandy, March 23rd, 1914.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
Colombo.
POSTAL.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose copy of a resolution recently passed by the Kotmale District Association and shall be obliged if you will inform me whether there is any objection to the course therein proposed being followed.

I am, Sir, &c.,
JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P.A., Ceylon.

Resolution referred to:—"That the Postmaster-General be asked to inform outstation Post Offices when mails are delayed, and when they may be expected.

General Post Office,
Colombo, April 3rd, 1914.

TO THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kotmale Planters' Association.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated March 23rd and to inform you that it is already the practice to advise by telegrams all offices affected if any serious delay in the arrival of mails caused, e.g., by breakdowns and washaways will take place.

2. Owing to want of information as to when and how communication may be restored or what alternative routes are open it is generally not possible to state at the time when the mail may be expected—so much depends on the progress of work and arrangements made for the transmission of the mails—offices are as a rule again advised by wire.

I am Sir, &c.,
F. J. SMITH,
Postmaster-General.

Tyspane, Kotmale, April 8th, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kotmale Planters' Association.

MEDICAL.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to draw your attention to the manner in which the District is treated by the Medical Authorities. The local D.M.O. is allowed to go on leave and no "locum tenens," appointed. Yesterday, at 4 p.m. there was no one at the Dispensary. (Rub it in!)

Yours faithfully,
J. S. RICHARDSON

IRISH ASSOCIATION.

March 29th, 1914.

DEAR THOMPSON,

I am sending you four handbills and hope you will table these at the next G. M. of your P. A. I also trust that your Chairman will extend his kindness to us by making a few complimentary remarks to the meeting. It is our wish and endeavour to make a great success of our Association.

Salaams,
S. C. TRAILL,
Hon. Secretary, Irish Association.

PILLAR BOXES AT RAILWAY STATIONS.

Mr. Still wrote on 19th March enclosing the following P.A. Committee resolution of March 13th:—

"A further letter from the Kotmale P.A. re pillar boxes at Railway Stations was read and the Secretary was directed to inquire from that Association at which stations they thought pillar boxes should be provided."

Kataboola, Kotmale,
February 2nd 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Kotmale P.A.

DEAR SIR,

At your next meeting I should like to bring forward the following resolution "that in view of almost every estate in the district charging the coolies a different rate for rice the estates in district do combine and agree to all charging the same rate. That a Committee be selected to fix the rate every month."

I am confident this would meet the support not only from Superintendents but their agents in Colombo.

Yours faithfully,
AUSTIN DICKSON.

Kataboola, Kotmale,
March 9th, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kotmale P.A.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your letter of 9th instant. Your reference to my letter of 2nd February, to Chairman on your association, and District rice rates, I regret I shall be unable to be present at your general meeting on April 30th, as I am leaving the Island, on April 7th. I shall, however, be glad if someone else would take the matter up, as I consider it of great importance that a uniform charge for rice be made on all estates in the district.

Yours faithfully,
AUSTIN DICKSON.

Dammeriya Group,
Passara, March 4th.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kotmale P.A.

DEAR SIR,

Referring to yours dated November 8th, 1913, both your resolutions received the unanimous support of this P.A.

Yours faithfully,
D. G. NORMAN,
Acting Hon. Secretary, Passara P.A.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kotmale P.A.

DEAR SIR,

Please convey my regrets to Dr. Langley Hunt and the meeting in general, viz., inability to attend today. I am afraid it is impossible as I am going to Colombo.

Yours faithfully,

C. S. M. BAIN.

TELEPHONES.

The CHAIRMAN asked why this matter was allowed to drop and averred that Kotmale would be left behind if they did not agitate. He said: Why should we put our light under a bushel. We should try again. A sum has been voted by Government for a connection between Kotmale and Nawalapitiya, and if we don't do it now we are done for.

It was resolved that a Committee be formed to go into the question, and the following were elected as members of this Committee:—

Messrs. J. W. Bennett, R. M. Kelly, Bovy-Lysberg, J. S. Richardson, the Chairman and the Hon. Secretary.

MEDICAL

Re Mr. Richardson's letter reporting the absence of the D.M.O., the Chairman enquired if anybody had anything to say in connection with it.

Mr. RODDAM informed the meeting that the D.M.O. was on leave, and the Assistant, who was expected to act for the D.M.O., was not qualified.

It was resolved that the P.C.M.O. be written to on this subject.—Carried.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

Re letter from Mr. Traill, the circulars which accompanied Mr. Traill's letter were distributed.

PILLAR BOXES.

Re this, the Chairman asked the members' opinions.

Mr. LYSBERG suggested all important railway stations.

It was agreed that these be provided for important stations on the main line.

RICE RATES.

The resolution by Mr. A. J. Austin Dickson that, in view of almost every estate in the district charging the coolies a different rate for rice, the estates in the district do combine and agree to all charging the same rate, and that a Committee be elected to fix the rate every month, being put before the meeting.

Mr. KELLY suggested fixing one rate.

Mr. THOMPSON: How is this feasible. Doombagastalawa has 16 miles of carting while Hangranoya has done at all. Carting is the critical thing.

The resolution was then put and lost.

ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN said the regulation of traffic in places like Nawalapitiya, Gampola and Kandy was open to considerable improvement and the energies of the Police force might with advantage be applied in this direction. Motor cars appeared to be the only users of the road that were controlled in any way, and it was unfair that this should be so. He spoke with some authority, as he was still smarting under a penalty of Rs. 20 for driving a car over 110 yards at a fraction of a minute faster than was allowed by the bye-laws. How much more good could be done towards making accidents less frequent were the Police energies directed to keeping carts, carriages, rickshaws and pedestrians to their proper places on the roads.

It was resolved that the Hon. Secretary write to the Superintendent of Police on the subject and request him to place constables at the cross-roads at Nawalapitiya and Gampola for the safety of the public.

THE NAWALAPITIYA HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN, speaking at length, said he visited the above hospital and was shocked to find only 46 beds when there were nearly 103 patients. The work in connection with the new wards he said is so slow; though it was started long ago no windows, no doors nor even signs of them are yet noticed. Only three carpenters were at work and the labour employed was decidedly insufficient. It is a hopeless thing to wait for the completion of these rooms. He did not know what to suggest and whom to approach. He put it to them as a suggestion that Government be asked to support estates and private wards and dispensaries. If estates put up dispensaries much good could be done to the district and coolies. In order to relieve the congestion at Dolosbagie Hospital it is proposed that the patients be sent to Nawalapitiya Hospital, making the congestion worse than ever. Why not write to Government asking for support towards the upkeep of estate hospitals.

Mr. BENNETT told of the willingness of certain Medical Officers to visit the estate and report on lines, etc., free of charge.

The CHAIRMAN asked why not write to them to come and visit the estates?

Mr. BENNETT said it was no use asking one to come for one estate. It was best to know how many were willing before he wrote. A suggestion was also made by Mr. Carmichael as to why Government should not be asked to put up a ward in the Kotmale dispensary, a small one with 10 or 12 beds.

This question was looked upon as a very serious one and the Chairman did not think that the completion of the new ward at Nawalapitiya Hospital will relieve the overcrowding to any appreciable extent.

J. P. AND U. P. M.

Correspondence was read *re* the above. Mr. M. S. Milne has held the appointment for a number of years and when he recently went home the Kotmale P.A. appointed Mr. O. Balean to act for him. On Mr. Milne's return Mr. Balean refused to resign although requested to do so, on the grounds that his appointment was a permanent one. It was decided to abide by the decision of the Kotmale P.A. On Mr. J. S. RICHARDSON'S resolution seconded by Mr. A. KENNEDY, it was unanimously resolved that Mr. Balean be asked to withdraw as his nomination was only an acting one.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the members for their kind attention and remarked that the meeting was a record one.

With a vote of thanks to the Chairman the meeting terminated.

KANDY DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of the Kandy District Planters' Association was held in the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, at 1-30 p.m. on Saturday, 2nd May. Mr. E. F. Home presided, and the others present were Messrs. A. Lee Simpson, C. C. du Pre Moore, G. J. Murray, Harold F. Dalton, W. A. F. Murray, Stanley Hillman, G. B. Vernon, S. R. Hamer, F. J. Holloway, R. W. Carnichael, C. R. N. Godfrey (visitor), and G. Kenion (Hon. Secretary).

The HON. SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last General Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

KANDY COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN said it would be a good thing if they elected an additional member on the Kandy Committee. Mr. Lee Simpson should do very well especially as they had a great deal to discuss about the Kandy Hospital. He would, no doubt, see things through.

Mr. G. J. MURRAY thought they should have new men on the Committee, men who took more interest in the Association.

The HON. SECRETARY then proposed that the name of Mr. A. Lee Simpson be added to the Committee; while Mr. G. J. MURRAY proposed Mr. Stanley Hillman also as an additional member.

Both proposals were agreed to.

THE KANDY HOSPITAL.

The meeting went into Committee and discussed at some length certain allegations made by Mr. J. A. Bur-

mester about the preparation of food at night for the patients in the paying wards of the Kandy Hospital.

The question of the proposed endowed Planters' ward for the Kandy Hospital was also discussed in Committee.

The meeting having resumed from the Committee stage, the HON. SECRETARY read the following report of the Hospital Visitors on the Kandy Hospital:—

THE CHAIRMAN,

Kandy District Planters' Association.

DEAR SIR,

We duly visited the Kandy Hospital at 3 p.m. today, and in the absence of Dr. Spaar, (who, we were informed, was in Colombo) we were shown all round the various wards by Dr. de Alwis. We found everything in good order as regards cleanliness but have to report that in the female diarrhoea ward all beds available were occupied, and 7 patients were sleeping on mats on cement floor. Also we found Nos. 9 and 10, *i.e.*, the ulcer and estate labourers wards were very overcrowded indeed. We are glad to report that the six new beds expected at our last visit, have arrived and are in use.

The new observation ward is about half completed.

Dr. de Alwis informed us that Rs. 10,000 had been voted for consulting rooms, &c., and we understand that the proposal is to make the present office into a consulting room, with an upper storey for a new office and other necessary rooms.

The new eye ward is to be used only as an outdoor dispensary, and patients after operation will be admitted to the present general surgical ward for further treatment.

We ascertained that only 3 European nurses *i.e.*, the acting matron and 2 nurses are supervising the work of 19 wards, and in our opinion it is a matter for much regret that there are not at least five European nurses for this work. We were informed that two other nurses are expected, but no date as to their probable arrival could be given.

We would again draw attention to the farce of the kitchen windows being fly proof, but not the doors, and also that the large spring to keep door always shut, as recommended some time ago, has not been affixed and the door, unless carefully shut, remains about six inches open.

Inmates : 2 in paying wards.

Total males	...	106
Total females	...	89
Total		195

Yours faithfully,

A. LEE SIMPSON,
J. F. FARQUHARSON.

TODDY TAVERNS.

The HON. SECRETARY read a notification about the proposed opening, from October next, of two toddy taverns in the Pattiyaagama, Pallegama and Udagama Wasamas.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary enclosing draft regulations, as published in the "Gazette," for preventing the spread of shot-hole borer.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that it was quite an important matter. A good many districts were troubled with shot-hole borer, and some thing should be done to prevent its spread. They should, certainly, back up the efforts of Government.

RINDERPEST.

The HON. SECRETARY also read a notification from the Government Agent about the recent outbreak of rinderpest

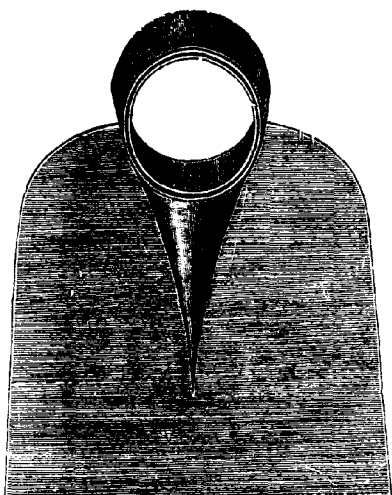
in the Municipality of Kandy and the Kandy District, already referred to in the "Times of Ceylon."

THE HON. SECRETARY.

The CHAIRMAN said that the next business was to appoint an Hon. Secretary in place of Mr. Kenion who, he regretted to say, had sent in his resignation. They were sorry that Mr. Kenion was resigning from the office. He would now propose that Mr. S. R. Hamer be elected Hon. Secretary.

The motion was carried, and the meeting was brought to a close.

MAMOTIES.



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6" x 6½"	1½ lbs.	Rs. 8-50 per dozen.
9" x 7"	3½ "	Rs. 10-50 " "
10" x 7"	4½ "	Rs. 11-50 " "
10" x 8"	4½ "	Rs. 13-00 " "

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The Planting Gazette

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

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[No 5.]



Editorial Notes

THERE is a very large and sudden expansion of motor traffic coming in the planting districts, and there are few signs that the railway department has made any preparation to meet it. Truly it may be said without injustice to Government departments that the right hand knoweth not what the left hand doeth. For the Public Works Department is at last fully alive to the importance of preparing the roads to meet the change from bullock cart to motor lorry, while the Ceylon Government Railway to all appearance sleeps. Fresh rolling stock is urgently needed in more than one direction and we believe that this is admitted. But what admission to make! It is of little use for roads to be improved and lorries to be put upon them if the railway cannot carry the requisite supplies of petrol wherewith to move them. Nor is the motor lorry the only consumer of liquid fuel whose requirements are shortly to leap up not tens, but perhaps, by hundreds per cent. Ten years ago there still remained on up-country tea estates a fair remnant of wood fuel. There were more belts of gum trees than there are now, and numbers of great old forest logs still lay where they had fallen when twenty or thirty years before the original forest had been felled. But these have been used in factories, and as a motive power gas engines have now for some time been gaining a place in most modern factories. Still the motor lorry must hold first place as a liquid fuel consumer, for the stationary engine can use various forms of fuel that are not suitable for the engine which has to travel and carry its own supplies.

It has been suggested both in these columns and out of them that alcohol may, perhaps, eventually be produced in Ceylon in such quantities as to supersede petrol as a motive power. In our November number last year Mr. M. Weigel, an expert in such matters as sugar and alcohol, wrote an interesting letter on the subject, though, per-

haps, he underrated the difficulty of opening up the dry country of the North in the products he described. But this change from one form of liquid fuel to another is still far away so far as we can see, and we doubt, whether the railway will show any more thirst after alcohol than it has after petrol.

In the meanwhile the bullock cart is doomed and the lorry is coming in. Huge cumbersome, ugly, roaring vans, terrifying to meet at an angle of the road above a deep ravine, but efficient and less liable to engine troubles than the bull to rinderpest.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The Committee appointed to investigate the prevalence, nature and condition of the above pest has a singular paucity of evidence to consider. From time to time remedial measures have been put forward only to be discarded with the haste which gave them birth; and in recent issues of "The Tropical Agriculturist," Mr. Rutherford, the Government Entomologist, deals what is practically a death blow to the burial of prunings, so far as it is associated with Shot-hole borer.

That the Shot-hole borer can continue to thrive beneath a weight of earth and under conditions of draught which had hitherto been considered fatal will come as shock to those planters who, under the advice of Mr. Rutherford's predecessor, have systematically buried their prunings. One gentleman, however, will, no doubt, greet the discovery with relief. Mr. Petch, the Government Mycologist, has repeatedly disclaimed against the burial of prunings on the score of the added danger of fungoid attacks; and we can remember his dismay when his pet abomination was suggested as one way of dealing with X. F. If we are not mistaken, however, Mr. Green put forward the suggestion more with the idea of nourishing the tea-bush by improved tilth and added humus than in the belief of exterminating the borer. Mr. Green was most persistent in pointing out that in cultivation lies our one hope. In his Monograph, pub-

lished in 1903, he emphasises his confidence that we can best employ our energies in giving battle to the pest from within the bush rather than from without; and he admits that even should we discover some composition which by external application would destroy the insects *in situ* without injuring the plant, unless such treatment was universally and simultaneously applied it would be of little permanent value, but would require constant repetition. The Investigating Committee will, no doubt, weigh the Manurial value of the prunings before deciding against their burial.

In the Tropical Agriculturist, Mr. Rutherford raises the question whether the attack of the borer is due to some weakness in the tea; and we fancy that most practical planters who have had any experience of the pest will answer this question in the affirmative. X. F. is said to have been known to the coffee planter, who, however, was content to ignore it as its ravages were infinitesimal. Starting as a Tea Pest in the hill districts surrounding Nawalapitiya where perhaps the poverty of the soil and the frequency of pruning made the bushes peculiarly liable to attack, the borer has spread continuously until there are few mid-elevation districts which can claim freedom from it. Of late years it has been discovered in tea nurseries, and it is doubtful whether the discovery was coincident with its attack or whether it has been concealed in young plants for a longer period. Mr. Rutherford, as a remedial measure, suggests the destruction of all nurseries in which the pest is located; but the tea nursery is not the only breeding ground which has gained in favour. Wind-belts of *Grevillea*s have long been known to harbour the borer, indeed tea at the foot of such belts is more commonly riddled than the less sheltered bushes in affected areas. This fact at one time led some people to suppose that the *Grevillea* is the home of the pest; but the evidence for and against this theory is said to be fairly evenly balanced and it must not be forgotten that the wind-borne flights of the borer might be checked by belts of trees and the insects deposited on the bushes below.

This leads us to the consideration of a letter which appeared in a recent issue of the "Times of Ceylon," and which seems to have escaped attention. Writing on the 6th of March Mr. W. A. Tytler advocates the extensive planting of shade trees as a measure likely to discourage the spread of the pest. Mr. Tytler instances the cases of *Helopeltis* in cacao and borer in South Indian coffee on having been effectually checked by the raising of shade; and he suggests in particular the *Albizia Stipulata*, *Albizia Moluccana* and the *Dadap* as likely to suit our purposes. He has, however, apparently overlooked or forgotten the fact that the first two varieties are mentioned by Mr. Green as liable to be attacked by X.F. Both these trees are found contaminated when grown in the poorer soils of the affected districts; while the *Albizia Moluccana* when pollarded is said to furnish a temporary home for the beetles whenever the tea is pruned. Indeed, we have recent information of a field of young tea, heavily shaded by *Albizia Moluccana*, being attacked and invaded in the vicinity of

Nawalapitiya. This field had been weakened by weed growth. In the case of the *Dadap*, which Mr. Tytler particularly emphasises as suitable, we understand that on two or three estates in the Kotmale District the originally pollarded *Dadaps* have been allowed to grow up and form shade. The experiment is still in its youth; but in the two years that have passed since it was initiated there has been no appreciable difference between the past and present ravages of the borer. Whether time will confirm Mr. Tytler's theory remains to be seen.

A prominent Visiting Agent, who is still on the active list, has a theory, which, as it is backed by the significance of practice, has much to recommend it. While agreeing with Mr. Green that it is almost useless when pruning to attempt to whittle away the tainted wood in a badly affected bush, he contends that a well-nourished bush will itself indicate which branches should be removed, when the tea is in the tipping stage. About the second or third round of tipping, coolies are sent out with knives and saws, and the naked branches are cut back to the first vigorous shoot, put into cutty sacks, carried to the factory and burnt. The contention is that the removal of all such gangrenous wood will check the spread of the gangrene and prevent what is called "die-back;" while the vigour which supplied the shoot will encourage the cambial tissues to plug the channels made by the borer, thereby choking the insects which have recently gained an entrance into the branches. The operation of removing the branches, however, is said to be useless unless the bushes are systematically cultivated. On one estate, which is directly under the eye of the V. A. in question, the crop has steadily risen with increasing doses of manure; and, although borer is still very much in evidence, the all-round yield for the past season was 800 lbs. an acre. We are sure that our readers will agree with us that such results deserve the consideration of the Investigating Committee.

FROM THE MONASTERY.

[A religious recluse who has devoted much time to the study of alchemy has very graciously undertaken to furnish our readers monthly with some small prescription for cordials of value, such as he has found bring joy into his aged heart.]

NO 1. MANHATTAN COCK TAIL.

Cool off shaker with lumps of ice—not crushed ice.

A few dashes of Angostura Bitters.

A few dashes of orange.

Rye Whisky (Canadian Club, Hunter's Baltimore Old Hermitage Bourbon) and Italian Vermouth half and half.

Shake well and pour off into wineglasses.

Add a Maraschino Cherry to each glass and a strip of lime peel which should be squeezed as it is dropped in.

Serve with a serious face in crystal goblets on a silver dish, and take as often as you can find anyone to pay.

EXTRACT FROM "CAPITAL" DATED MAY 21st, 1914.

Surma Valley.

At a recent Meeting of your Indian Tea Association Messrs. Graham and Woods gave an account of their trip to Madras and they referred to their want of success with the Government in their efforts to open up the Independent States of Ganjam, to Assam recruiting. From my knowledge of the circumstances, the result was undoubted from the first. The grave political difficulties said to exist are, purely imaginary and have never really existed. The real facts are, some time ago Mr. McMichael, I.C.S., had a considerable difference of opinion with a firm of cooly recruiters, which eventuated in a law suit. In the end Mr. McMichael was defeated rather badly and since then has a down on everything that can be called recruiting. There are two things which might help the tea industry in the matter and these are, the transfer of this officer, or, the Government of Madras exercising their own judgment in this matter. The District Magistrate's attitude is not one of protection for the independent States, but of rabid antagonism to all that is called recruiting from Bengal and Assam. Under these circumstances the results were never in doubt. The Association must, however, keep pegging away until their object is attained.

I presume that the Indian Tea Association in this matter moved as well as they knew, but contrast their humble attitude with that of the Ceylon Labour Commissioner when he goes abroad to induce the wily cooly to emigrate to Ceylon. In the "Ceylon Gazette" of the month of May, I see that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Mr. Scotle Nicholson, has approached all and sundry Government Officials with what we might call a declaration of principles, written in the orthodox official style, which shows that the Commissioner has benefited by his sojourn amongst the authorities. He begins his notice to the Government Officials.

"Sir,—As it has come to my notice on more than one occasion that Government Officials in this Presidency are not always fully aware of the real nature of the work of my Commission, I am venturing to bring the matter to your notice through the medium of this letter, etc."

This is meeting resolution with resolution and carrying the war into the enemies' country and using their own weapons against them.

To any of our people, who think that our Association and our T. D. Labour Supply Association are doing all that can be reasonably expected of them, I would advise the careful study of Ceylon's methods as very clearly stated in their paper the "Ceylon Gazette." Their system of working is very sound and their control as efficient as personal supervision can make it. Their Commissioner further says "it will certainly be necessary to make strenuous efforts to keep pace with the situation. Assam now desires to

come further south for her labour and Tamils are required for opening land and for cultivation of tea in Burmah." It will thus be seen that they are keeping a close watch on everything affecting their labour supply and the cost of all this highly organised Association means only a cost of Rs. 15 per head for the labour recruited. What would our Assam friends say to labour at Rs. 15 per head? It is further pointed out in this same "Gazette" that Southern India has formed a similar Agency for the regulation and control of their own recruiting.

I have the warmest admiration for Ceylon methods and would like much to see them applied nearer home. During the year they have secured 97,564 coolies at an expenditure as already stated of Rs. 15 per head. This is a heavy drain on the labour of the country but not too heavy for it to bear, as the labour supply of Madras is a large one. If we desire to share in it we must, however, be as carefully organised as those competing with us. We must also have men in charge who are prepared to go out on tour in the villages and exercise an efficient control. The paying of advances in office does not constitute a control of any sort. I notice that they are strongly opposed to the professional recruiter and reject all brought in in this way. Some of your correspondents in "Capital" seem to think that the professional control is the only one. They will not receive much comfort from the perusal of this paper.

Some Notes on Labour Recruiting in South India by Superintendents.

OUTFIT.—The following are necessities:

1. Camp bed and bedding.
2. Camp washstand.
3. Windproof candlesticks and lantern (the best type is the P. W. D. pattern).
4. Tiffin basket.
5. Small canteen.

If the above are taken over from Ceylon, duty will be charged.

Messrs. Spencer & Co., Madras, supply camp outfits.

SERVANT.—A good cook and one accustomed to travelling should be engaged. It is probably best to get a man in South India and not to take one from Ceylon.

TRAVELLERS' BUNGALOWS.—Bedding and food are not available and must be supplied by the traveller. The only servant is the watchman.

MOTOR CYCLE.—This will be found indispensable, and a great saver of time and money.

FUNDS.—Arrangements can be made to draw money from the Ceylon Labour Commission Agents. This is the best method as banks are few and far between and it is impossible to cash cheques in most places.

Recruiting.

THROUGH KANGANIES.—If the Kanganies have good coast connections they will recruit coolies without assistance. If not, it is a waste of time and money to look them up in their villages and try to assist them. If registers are kept on the Estate showing the time Kanganies are at the coast, the amount of money they spend and the number of coolies they recruit, it is quite easy to pick out the useful men. Sometimes a Kangany has coolies ready in his village but requires more money to pay off their debts. In such a case the Ceylon Labour Commissioner can be asked to send an Agent or Peon to the village to advance money there if the circumstances warrant it. A fair percentage of Kanganies never go to their villages at all. They wait in or near an Agency for voluntary coolies; these are coolies who can find no work in their villages and having heard of Ceylon from the Assistant Commissioners on tour, go to the nearest Agency not minding to what estate they go, provided it is in Ceylon.

DIRECT RECRUITING.—The Ceylon Labour Commissioner's advice should be taken as to the best locality for headquarters. They should be in a place where there is a C. L. C. Agency, for the following reasons:—

1. Coolies should be registered as near their own villages as possible, making it easier to trace bolters or to answer enquiries from relations or others.
2. Forwarding coolies through the Commission is better and cheaper than any other method.
3. The C. L. C. Agent will be of the greatest use to a recruiting Superintendent. He knows the bad characters of his district and will save money being spent on professional bolters. To give a case in point:—An apparently suitable family was sent in by a Superintendent for registration, the Agent produced a photo of the gang and proved them to be professional bolters.

DEPOT.—A native house should be rented as a depot where small parties of coolies can be kept for a few days until a reasonable number have been collected. It is expensive sending a peon to Mandapam with every two or three coolies.

Two peons should be engaged to look after the coolies in the depot and escort gangs to Mandapam.

Arrangements can be made with a native hotel to feed the coolies while in the depot at about Annas 2 per head.

General.

TAMILS.—It is practically impossible to recruit personally. The best method is to employ a few respectable natives such as retired soldiers, government clerks, or village Munsiffs. Pay them a small salary, travelling expenses and commission on coolies recruited. They will travel in their own Taluqs and inform the recruiting superintendent when and where they have coolies available. He can then proceed to the village, inspect the coolies, settle their debts and arrange for their despatch to his depot. When a sufficient number have been collected in the depot they can be registered at the C. L. C. Agency and despatched to the

estate. It will be found best to accept family gangs only. It is very difficult to get a single man with no relations to settle down on the estate, even if he is handed over to some Kangany who is prepared to look after him. Moreover there is little prospect of his being the means of recruiting other coolies, as he has no connections on the estate it is inadvisable to send him back to coast to recruit. On the other hand a family man after a few months work on the estate can be sent back to coast to bring his relations, leaving his wife and children as security.

TELUGUS.—The Telugu is harder to move than the Tamil. Unless the estate has a good connection it is almost impossible to recruit them without the assistance of the Missionaries who have great influence with the labouring classes in the Telugu districts. Prove to a missionary that emigration is to the coolies' advantage, or better still get him to come to Ceylon and see the conditions of estate life, and once his active sympathy is obtained the rest is easy. There is any amount of Telugu labour available but in many districts the idea of emigration to Ceylon is unknown.

EXPENSES.—The figures given below are only approximate:—

CAPITAL, Motor Cycle	Rs. 750/00
Camp Outfit	200/00
Depot Outfit	50/00
Peons Uniforms	30/00
Total	Rs. 1,030/00
MONTHLY, Superintendent's travelling by road and rail	Rs. 150/00
Two recruiters' salaries,	50/00
„ travelling.	20/00
Two peons' salaries	20/00
Rent of depot.	15/00
Total	Rs. 255/00

Regarding the superintendent's living expenses. The allowance of Rs. 7/00 per day over and above their salaries given to the Assistant C. L. C. Commissioners while in camp gives a good idea of the cost of living in South India. A recruiting superintendent living as he has to in Travellers bungalows and Railway Retiring Rooms is practically always "in camp."

H. G. O'CONNELL.

NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

3rd MAY, 1914.

At the meeting of the above Association held at the Collector's Office on Saturday, 2nd May, 1914, the following Members were present:—

Mr. J. S. Nicolls (Chairman.)
 Hon'ble Mr. E. F. Barber.
 Mr. C. H. Brock.
 Mr. W. A. Cherry
 Mr. G. W. Fulcher.
 Mr. A. R. Piggott.
 Mr. L. L. Porter.
 Mr. A. A. Brown.
 Mr. G. W. Church (Honorary Secretary.)

Visitors.

Mr. Waddington.

Mr. R. Brierley.

The proceedings of the last meeting were confirmed.
110. Mr. Brock read the Delegates' Report on the Extraordinary General Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I. held at Bangalore, 11th of March, 1914.

DELEGATES' REPORT.

On the Extraordinary General Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I.
GENTLEMAN,

According to your instructions we attended the General meeting of the U. P. A. S. I. on the 11th and 12th instant.

A report of most of the proceedings that took place in open meeting has appeared in the Press, and the full discussions in Committee will be published by the Association as soon as possible.

THE PROPOSED LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

There were really only two contentious points raised, namely:—

- (a) A reduced subscription for coffee, and
- (b) the control of the Department.

(a) As regards the former, the District Associations of Mysore and Coorg were soon convinced that if the point was pressed the whole scheme would be wrecked, and unanimously agreed to the two rupees per acre all round.

At the present moment, with Tea prices booming, you hear a great deal more as to necessity of a larger number of coolies for a given area than was considered necessary fifteen years ago when Tea prices were at a low level. Twenty years ago, when Coffee prices were in the neighbourhood of £100 per ton and when there was no tug, as many, if not more coolies were required on a given area of Coffee as on the same area of Tea. These conditions of labour demand are at present reversed, but it is a wonderful prophet who can assert that they are permanently so. Similarly, Rubber was, a few years ago, held to require at least one and a half coolies per acre, but for estates in full bearing and with the present improved methods of a tapping, it is realised that from a half to three-quarters of a coolie per acre, or rather less than is at present necessary for coffee, is ample. With conditions continually changing, it is palpably impossible to differentiate between the various products even for so limited a period as five years. The starting of a department, such as the one proposed, is, necessarily, of an expensive nature. The only way in which the cost to the individual planter can be reduced is by obtaining the wholehearted support of a very large majority of the planting interests in Southern India. If any

man says that he thinks that the Labour Department is a move in the right direction, and does not support it from the start so as to ensure its success, and so ensure its becoming cheaper and less of a drain on his pocket in future years, that man is stultifying his own opinion. The men who most pride themselves on being most successful with labour, and who assure you that they can get all the labour they want, even they admit that they have a great deal more difficulty in maintaining their staff of coolies than they used to have a few years back, and that the difficulty yearly gets worse. Your having all the coolies that you require now is but a poor excuse for not supporting the Labour Department. Is not insuring your personal self against this yearly increasing worry and trouble in getting and keeping your labour worth Rs. 2 per acre?

The sooner everyone starts supporting the Labour Department, the sooner will this worry and trouble be lightened, and the sooner you will be insured against possible losses of advances, even if you have not suffered in this way hitherto, and, last, but not least, the sooner you will reduce the amount of the subscription required per acre for the maintenance of the Department.

Gentlemen, we have put these remarks in this report, not only because they embody much of the discussion that took place at the meeting in Committee, but because the area that has promised support is still far short of the required amount, and we wish you to appeal again to the many men in this District who are "sitting on the fence" to join hands with those who are bearing the brunt of the struggle on behalf of the whole Planting Industry of Southern India.

(b) As regards the control of the Department, there seems to be a widespread feeling that the Labour Department is to be controlled by Messrs. James Findlay and Co., Ltd. We can but reiterate what has already been published, that the Department if started, is to be worked by the Executive Committee under the direct control of the U. P. A. S. I. Council. Hence, any point raised by any subscribers will be dealt with by a governing body which represents every Planting District, and not solely by any individual or firm.

The Scientific Department of the U. P. A. S. I.

Under this heading the Meeting was faced with the difficulty of wanting to expand the department and not to let it remain at a standstill, and at the same time not to tax planters any further, owing to the heavy drain on their pockets from the new expense of the Labour Department. The U. P. A. S. I. is in a position to pay to Government, out of its own funds, an increased yearly grant towards expenses, but has not sufficient to be able to do all that is required at its own expense. To ensure continuity of work, and to enable us to establish the Department on a more permanent and stable basis, it is proposed to ask Government, in consideration of the increased grant the U. P. A. S. I. is prepared to put down out of its own funds, to take over the whole of the U. P. A. S. I. Scientific Department.

and to run it as a branch of the Department of Agriculture, Madras, but under the guiding control of the U. P. A. S. I. as to the work to be done. At present this is but a suggestion, and it is for District Associations to discuss the proposal and to send on their decision to the U. P. A. S. I. as soon as possible.

In conclusion, gentlemen, we have to thank you for having elected us as your representatives, and we hope that our endeavours on your behalf meet with your approval.

L. L. PORTER.

C. H. BROCK.

Proposed from the chair that a hearty vote of thanks be passed to delegates Messrs. C. H. Brock and L. L. Porter for their interesting report and that the report be printed in the proceedings.—Carried unanimously.

No. 111. SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.—Proposed by Mr. Brock and seconded by Mr. G. W. Fulcher that the Chairman with the Hon'ble Mr. E. F. Barber be asked to draw up a circular which shall be issued to members and that the matter be brought up for further discussion at the next meet.

No. 112. U. P. A. S. I. MEETING.—It was resolved that July 6th would suit the Association.

No. 113. KIL-KOTAGIRI ROAD.—Mr. C. H. Brock gave reasons why the Sub-Committee appointed to consider the matter of the estimate of the cost of this road was at present unable to give any further details.

No. 114. CENTRAL TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.—Resolved that as this Association did not subscribe to the Institute, it did not feel justified in giving the support asked for.

No. 115. NEXT MEETING.—It was resolved that the next meeting should be called for the 22nd June, or as soon as possible after the preliminary agenda of the U. P. A. S. I. meeting had been issued.

A vote of thanks to the Collector for the use of the room and to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

J. S. NICOLLS, Chairman.

G. W. CHURCH, Honorary Secretary.



THE EDITOR,

"Planting Gazette."

SIR,

In your June number there is an article on Volunteering in Ceylon, which deals principally with the Ceylon Mounted Rifles; the criticism by your contributor, signing himself "Trooper" is well merited. The other branches of Ceylon's Auxilliary forces are fairly well maintained. But the C.M.R., well, what can be said of it? True, by the resignation of its gallant Colonel—Colonel Gordon Reeves—the corps has lost its guiding spirit.

At the recent Review in Colombo at the King's Birthday parade, the C. M. R. were represented at the saluting base! all other corps were represented on the parade ground. It is not, of course, Reviews and such like Gala ceremonials which make for efficiency; but Troop drills and Camp, I cannot emphasise the latter too strongly, it is at Camp that amateur soldier learns the game of war. Writers to the public press have said, that when occasion arises, Volunteers will roll up in thousands—thousands of what? untrained troops who will be the cause of much anxiety to these who have to lead them. It is during peace that Volunteers must learn what to do in time of war. When the guns begin to shoot there is no time to learn. Must patriotic enthusiasm be born in a man, can he not acquire it? Certainly few attempt to acquire it. Ulster has recently raised an army of 100,000 men. I will not enter into politics!

To touch on social amenities, which appear to hold stronger attractions for the young men of Ceylon is to court abuse. The cap fits, hence the wrath of those who can find time to travel from Kalutara to Uva, or Uva to the Kelani Valley to play a football match, yet are "too busy," "can't get leave" and so on and so forth when it comes to Volunteering, or for such as are Volunteers to attend Camp. The "can't get leave" theory is a very thin one, or it may be that so much leave has already been taken to join tennis and croquet parties, that it cannot honestly be asked for—be the need however pressing.

At one time Volunteering used to be treated with decision by the Regular Forces, that decision is more applicable now, but decision from the ordinary layman can only be treated with the business of a rifle!

"Trooper" endeavours to set down causes for the slump in Volunteering as relating to the C. M. R. His article is an able and readable one; but after all the "slump"—as he terms it—can be due to little else than apathy, pure and simple. The question is what can be done to shake the able-bodied man between the ages of twenty and forty, out of this discreditable lethargy?

Yours Obediently,

J. S. RICHARDSON.

NOTICE.

Advertising for Bolters.

The Coast Agency Committee discussed at the September Meeting the expediency of advertising in the News papers offering rewards for coolies who have absconded or bolted.

It was decided that this practice is inadvisable and the Secretary was directed to publish this decision in the "Planting Gazette."

JOHN STILL,

Secretary.

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.**Tickets on the Railway.**

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kanganyes proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.**A Forms.**

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September, 1913.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution Referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the "Planting Gazette" and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly,
14th October, 1913.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January, 1913.

Coast Agency Cess.

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the "Planters' Gazette."

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.**Removal of Resthouse at Kadawala to Watawala.**

Notice is hereby given that the Resthouse at Kadawala (Ginigathena) will be removed to Watawala with effect from the 1st July, 1914. The Resthouse will be closed to the public from June 25th to July 30th, 1914.

By Order,
C. H. COLLINS,
Secretary.
Provincial Road Committee,
Kandy, 18th May, 1914.

NOTICE.**Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee, held on Friday, 8th May, 1914.****RESOLVED:—**

"That in future instances of Estates which are already subscribers to the Coast Agency endeavouring to assist non-subscribing estates, the following procedure be adopted:—

First, the Superintendent to be written to,
Second, the Agents or proprietor,

Third, the Estate Agents' Association, and failing satisfaction, the offending Estates' subscription shall be refused in future."

NOTICE.**Tuticorin Forwarding Agency.**

The opening of the new Indo-Ceylon Railway connection via Polgahawella and Dhanushkodi having diverted the greater part of the coolie traffic from the Colombo-Tuticorin route, notice is hereby given to Estates concerned that the Tuticorin Forwarding Agency will be closed on July 8th to be re-opened at Dhanushkodi so soon as pending arrangements are completed of which due notice will be given.

This notice does not include the Colombo Establishment which will be kept open.

COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.

The comparative statement appended shows a total falling off in coolies recruited through the medium of this Commission of 9910 to date as compared with 1913, a drop of no less than 4,338 since my last report. I have already mentioned in my April report that one of the chief reasons for this falling off is the fact that Kanganies and coolies are not coming over to recruit in such large numbers as during the previous year. The comparative statement speaks for itself. It will be seen, however, that the **Telugu Circle** has been, so far, practically neglected, as far as recruiting for Ceylon is concerned. The Agencies of Guntakal and Nellore will be closed on the 15th July. **Salem Circle** figures are most disappointing with the exception of Namakal which is doing particularly well. Turaiyur and Musiri show signs of improvement consequent upon the somewhat late recruiting season. **Headquarter Circle.** Cannanore, one of the Malayalam Agencies is going ahead, the stamp of labour recruited is not quite satisfactory, however, some being reported as having bolted on arrival in Ceylon. Palghat shows a slight improvement on last year and bolting after registration from that Agency shows a very great diminution. **Madura Circle.** Figures for Madura Agency show a substantial increase as also Mandapam and Tataparai as compared with the single Agency at Tataparai for last year.

BOLTING AFTER REGISTRATION.—I am glad to report that the amount of advances under this heading that has been lost for the first 4 months of the year shows a very appreciable reduction as compared with the same period last year. Agents are evidently exercising greater care in registering coolies and thereby discouraging Kanganies from utilising the services of the professional recruiter. If the stamp of labour recruited is of an improved quality, it should, in a great measure, compensate for the shortage of labour as compared with last year which may have to be faced unless conditions improve during the next few months.

COLOMBO FORWARDING AGENCY.

This has been moved as from 1st June to more suitable premises almost next door to the old building at the corner of Skinner's road, Maradana. The utility of this Agency has been considerably affected by the diversion of traffic to the new railway route as was to be expected, but it will be kept open for the benefit of those Estates situated in the low-country whose coolies have to pass through Colombo to be sent by either route indicated by the Superintendent. The Tuticorin Agency is being closed as has already been notified in the Press on 6th June, 1914, as the number of coolies that are proceeding by the old route do not justify its continuance. Arrangements for opening a Forwarding Agency at Dhanushkodi are in hand, but owing to the necessity for the erection of a suitable building by the Railway authorities for the caterers, some delay may be expected.

AMMAPATNAM AGENCY.

Owing to the large number of coolies that are proceeding via Arantangi, Trichinopoly and Mandapam preferably to travelling by the direct sea route from this port to Colombo, an Agency will shortly be opened at Arantangi, and Ammapatnam discontinued. The Arantangi Agent will, however, visit Ammapatnam prior to the departure of the fortnightly steamer in case there are any coolies holding A. Forms on this Commission that require registration and payment. The opening of a new Agency at Arantangi and closing of Ammapatnam will be notified in the Press and I trust that estates having connection in those districts formerly served by Ammapatnam will direct their Kanganies to Arantangi and make their A. Forms payable at that Agency. The extra cost of Railway journey via Arantangi and Trichinopoly as compared with the direct sea route will in most cases be amply compensated for by the fact that long periods of detention at Ammapatnam awaiting the departure of the steamer will be obviated. The necessity for an Agency at Arantangi is apparent from several complaints that have been received of late from Superintendents that their coolies could not get assistance to proceed by the land route. The distance of Arantangi from Tanjore the nearest Agency by rail is no less than 110 miles. The establishment of an Agency at Arantangi will, it is hoped, give an impetus to recruiting in the Districts of Pattukottai and Alangudi, the North-eastern portion of Pudukottah State where many Ceylon Kanganies have connections.

COMMISSIONER'S CAMPING.

During the last few weeks I have personally inspected the Agencies of Madura, Mandapam, Tinnevely, Tataparai, Tuticorin, Madras, Chingleput, Arkonam and Villupuram and was glad to find that with very few exceptions the work was being carried out in a satisfactory manner and shows considerable improvement both as regards the office records and conduct of the Agencies. The Feeding arrangements for coolies are being carried out according to instruction and the food supply I personally inspected was of very good quality. Coolies whom I found passing through the Agencies in no case made any complaint.

MANDAPAM CAMP:—The increasing numbers of coolies passing through this Camp and the limited accommodation available has necessitated diversion of a portion of the coolie traffic back to the Tuticorin route during the last few weeks which is unfortunate, although apparently unavoidable. Recruiters who have been coming over to South India by the new route have, no doubt, spread the glad tidings of the short sea trip and comfortable Railway journey throughout the recruiting Districts, and it is a pity that any different impression has had to be created which will take time to eradicate again.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

HEADQUARTER AND MADURA CIRCLES.

General Information.

(Being extracts from Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner's Inspection Reports.)

TANJORE:—There is a large increase in the number of coolies registered this year and I consider the prospects are very good. Labour is available in Pattukotta, Kumbakonam and Arantangi Taluks.

TINNEVELLY:—I am informed that one of the chief causes for the slackness in recruiting during the present year is owing to the fact that the Collector of Tinnevelly broadcasted throughout the villages a circular which I append with regard to plague in Colombo thereby frightening coolies from going up-country. The circulation of the Commission special notices *re* plague should have to some extent nullified the effect of Mr. Jackson's notice and exaggerated stories of coolies who came over from Colombo.

The effect of the plague scare will, no doubt, wear off in time and the situation has already improved to some extent.

Crops have not been satisfactory on the whole and prospects for recruiting would be more favourable were it not for plague and competition with Travancore and Western Hills Estates.

The Tinnevelly-Tiruchendur Railway will shortly be sanctioned and this is likely to further affect recruiting here. The survey is completed and now only awaits the apportionment of funds for the construction to be put in hand. Energetic recruiting for Carnatic Regiments is also now being undertaken, one recruiting Officer being at Tinnevelly at the time of my visit who was endeavouring to make arrangements to secure up to as many as 2,000 recruits.

TONDI:—There has been a very great falling off in the number of coolies registered at Tondi this year and various reasons are advanced to account for this.

When plague broke out in Colombo a large number of Colombo workers returned to Tondi and spread reports about the harsh way in which all those who were suspected of being plague-infected were treated by the Municipal authorities. These reports spread through the villages and have, doubtless, deterred many coolies from embarking. The harvest in the district in the neighbourhood of Tondi has been very late and it has also been a very heavy one on account of timely rains and this has further delayed the coolies in their migration.

The chetties who live in Devakotta and other places in the Ramnad District have been going in very largely for building, and two steamers from Moulmein were discharging teak at Tondi for a week each in the month of January. As these chetties pay liberal wages both on their building work and in the fields the same need for emigration does not exist as in previous years. A great number of the coastal residents are Mahomedans who have accumulated a good deal of wealth through trade with Colombo and have

invested their savings in lands suited for agriculture. This gives further employment in the district at satisfactory wages.

The large Chitrai festival at Madura possibly accounted for a large number of Ramnad coolies deferring their departure as it has come so close on the end of harvest. A number of coolies who previously went by the steamer route to Colombo are now going overland by rail registering at Mandapam Agency instead of Tondi.

In addition to all these causes there have been only forty-four A. Form holders sent to Tondi from the Estates as against ninety last year. This, in itself, is sufficient to account for a great part of the slackness in recruiting, and I do not anticipate that last year's figures will be reached. I append a schedule showing how the Kanganies arrived this year and last year and how the coolies have been shipped:—

Months.	1913. Kanganies arriving.	1914. Coolies departure.	1913.	1914.
January	14	13	111	111
February	13	8	109	56
March	17	12	129	44
April	29	10	215	30
May	17	1	176	...
	90	44	740	241

The whole sea coast between Ammapatam and Tondi and from Devipatam to Ammapatam is inhabited almost solely by Mahomedans who subsist on the trade between South India and Colombo. There are a few hamlets which are engaged in fishing, but the agricultural districts do not touch the coast.

DINDIGUL:—Owing to the somewhat late harvest recruiting has been retarded. There are a good many Kanganies recruiting in the district and figures are showing signs of improvement. Corps have been fairly good but the want of rain for the last few months should give an impetus to recruiting and Kanganies who are sent over to this centre would, no doubt, secure labour among their connections.

MADURA:—Owing to the absence of rain in Melur, Tirumangalam and Madura Taluks coolies are available, and recruiting figures show an appreciable increase.

MANDAPAM:—Recruiting prospects are bright. There has been no rain for months and crop prospects are poor. The establishment of an Agency at Paramagudy is, I think, advisable. The Agent and his Assistant at Mandapam know very little about the district, nor have they any time to carry out any advertisement programme or to do any travelling in connection with defaulting cases, because they are of necessity kept busy permanently at the Mandapam Camp. The District itself would be better served by a similar Agency at the place I have already mentioned. There is, no doubt, that Ramnad should be more energetically exploited, especially now it is reported that conditions are so favourable for recruiting.

AMMAPATAM is a small hamlet consisting of a few Mahomedan houses and a small Tamil fishing village adjoining. While the falling off at this Agency is not so great in actual numbers as in Tondi, it is comparatively much the

same and is partly accounted for by the harvest abundantly secured in the Arantangi District this year. A large number of coolies are now proceeding by rail who previously came to Ammapatam to travel by sea. There is also a very bad outbreak of small-pox, at the present time at Manamelkudi, which is within a mile or two from Ammapatnam and this is said to deter the coolies in coming to that port for shipment.

When steamers to Colombo anchor in the neighbourhood of Ammapatam they are about half way between that place and a port three miles southward named Kotapatam, a place of much the same nature.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

TINNEVELLY DISTRICT GAZETTE. .

NOTICE.

Whereas plague is prevalent in Colombo and may infect this district all persons are warned that the presence of dead rats is a sign of infection, and are ordered to communicate news of the same at once to the Municipal or Union Chairman.

G. H. B. JACKSON,
Ag. Collector.

TELUGU AND ARCOT CIRCLES.

General Information.

CHINGLEPUT AGENCY:—Owing to the good rain which Chingleput District had in November last there is still plenty of water in the tanks and crops have been very good. The Agent agrees that this is the chief reason why so few coolies have been registered this year.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Commissioner,
14-5-14.

SALEM CIRCLE.

General Information.

KUPPAM:—Most of the Kanganies resorting to this Agency come from Mysore Territory and the fall in Agency figures is attributed to the fact that they have not yet become sufficiently acquainted with the knowledge that this Agency has been transferred from Bangalore and are therefore going to Katpadi and other Agencies to register their coolies. It is hoped before very long, that there will be an increase in registration, since the Agency has changed hands. A great many coolies have gone to Ceylon from these parts and it is a pity, therefore, as Penang is such a close rival here, that the people are more attracted by the latter, owing to the fact that they hear regularly from those who have emigrated there.

TIRUPATHUR:—People have returned to the town as the plague has subsided and the Agency was reopened on 22nd April, 1914, after being closed for about one and a half months on account of the epidemic. There has been no really good rain for a long time but at present a few thunderstorms may be expected. There has been a very big drop in coolies this year as against last which can be attributed to the plague, which kept Kanganies away from the Agency when it was open during the first part of the year and the closing of the Agency on this account for one and a half months.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner.

CAMPING REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, HEADQUARTER AND MADURA CIRCLES FOR MAY, 1914.

On the 16th May I left Trichy by the 12-35 p.m. train with the intention of starting a camp in the Tanjore District, having numerous matters to attend to in connection with the defaulting cases and looking up Kanganies, I have not been able to cover much ground.

On the evening of the 16th I partly inspected the Agency and completed the inspection on the 17th evening.

On the 18th I remained at Tanjore motoring out to a village called Okkakudi twenty-eight miles out and back from Tanjore, finished the enquiry I went there for, and interviewed several people, it was a very small village, and the Village Munsiff was not at all affable and was very of hand, however, I got the information I wanted from him and gave him some notices to deliver in the village, which he agreed to do. On my return journey I stopped at a village called Belangudi, a village of Vellalas and Wuddars, these people were earning from As. 6 to As. 8 per day in the fields, did not seem at all inclined to go to Ceylon, but wanted notices, I also stopped at two large towns called Tiruvadi and Kandiyoore, I could not find any Kanganies here though there were Penang recruiters, the people in these towns were numerous and very flourishing. Returning to Tanjore, I interviewed a prospective landlord for new office building in the town; went to the office in the evening.

On the 19th I went out to a village called Ukkade thirty-four miles out and back from Tanjore, over a very bumpy road, I went in the first place to call on the big Zemindar of this Village one Rao Bahadur Appasawm Pillai who was extremely cordial and courteous in his reception of me wishing to give me any information he could on my enquiring for the Village Munsiff he very soon produced him, showing him plainly that he must answer my questions. This Zemindar lives in semi-European style is very well educated, possesses a billiard table, Motor Car and has telephones to all his villages, he has a very nice house and garden, he gave me an invitation to stay with

him when I next came to his village. I stopped at Ammapatti, Pundi, Saliangalam, Mariammankoil, the people at these villages said they had not been to Ceylon, and apparently are having very good pay and are not keen to go.

On the 20th, I left Tanjore at 8 a.m. to go by train to Arantangi where I arrived at 4.45 p.m., the travellers' Bungalow was a horrid place about half a mile from the Station, it was exceedingly hot and uncomfortable here, I discovered that there would be a good deal of labour available between Arantangi and the Coast. The country is the most desolate I have ever seen and nothing looks nice, I can't imagine anything growing there. I saw the Munsiff, V. M. Singara Velu, who gave me a good deal of information.

On the 21st I interviewed the Sub-Magistrate and the Sub-Registrar who also told me that labour was available, people are able to earn good wages but there is not always work for them, Arantangi is, I think, a very good place for an Agency, notices were distributed here, but the town is not a large one, consisting of about 3,000 inhabitants. No Kanganies could be found.

There are no Motor roads in this part and I had to go about in Bullock bandies, I left Arantangi for Nagaram on the 22nd night spending a most uncomfortable night in the bandy, as the road is a sand track, the heat was so great that I got out of the bandy at 3 a.m. had my cot put out and slept by the side of the road.

I was pleased to find that the Zemindar of Nagaram had erected a small tattie house for me, lined with cloth (there is no bungalow here), I interviewed several Village Munsiffs and the Zemindar had sent out to all his villages to beat up the Kanganies and quite a number gathered, evidently these Kanganies had been meeting old friends, as several of them had been celebrating the occasion by not being particularly sober. Since I have been in the Commission I have never seen so many Kanganies and people who have been to Ceylon at one time, the villages around Nagaram seem to be the favourite haunt of Kanganies, though they all told me that labour was very difficult to get, but this I do not think is true.

On the 24th night I left by bullock bandy for Arantangi and during the night my bandy fell over the khud, fortunately I was not hurt beyond a few scratches and being stung by red ants, it was pitch dark, my flash and my watch were broken, the bandyman lay on the ground shouting that his leg was broken, but soon recovered the use of them when he saw that the bullocks were making off, lights were soon produced and I finished my journey.

I arrived at Arantangi at 3.15 a.m., and left by train for Tanjore. I forgot to mention that whilst at Nagaram Mr. Sim of Spring Valley Estate arrived in a bullock bandy, and he spent the night at my temporary house, had I not been there he would have had no place to stay and was quite prepared to rough it, he has, I gather, been having an experience of the difficulties of motoring over these dreadful roads, and I must say the roads in the Tanjore District are the very worst I have ever seen, in fact they cannot be called roads.

On the 26th I spent the morning at the Agency at Tanjore.

On the 27th I motored out to a village called Thandangorai as I wished to find a particular Kangany there, this gentleman was found fishing, and the crowd were immensely amused when I told him he would be much better employed in fishing for coolies, this put them all in a good temper, and two more Kanganies came to see me, I got all the information I wanted and distributed notices, a large number of these villagers had been to Ceylon.

On the 28th I went to see the landlord of the proposed new office building, and left Tanjore by the night train for Trichy.

REMARKS ON MY CAMP.

This is the first time I have camped in the Tanjore District and I was surprised to find in the villages I visited so many Kanganies and coolies who have been to Ceylon, evidently Ceylon is well-known in this District. The wages are very high ranging from As. 6 to As. 12, yet a large number of labour goes to Ceylon, in fact the figures this year are in excess of last year, this proves that the cooly does not altogether emigrate with the idea of making more money. The Kanganies whom I saw complained of the difficulty in getting labour, but I am of opinion that good Kanganies can get labour in the Tanjore District if they take any trouble, so many of them come to Coast and loaf about in their villages and don't take the slightest trouble to recruit.

The village Munsiffs being in many cases landowners themselves are, no doubt, not at all inclined to help to trace defaulters and a large number of the villages are owned by big Zemindars, though I find many coolies go from these Zemindari villages.

The great difficulty in the Tanjore District is the roads, they are only fit for bandy traffic and some of them are too bad for that even.

Total distance travelled by train	284
do. do. by Motor Cycle and bandy.	102
Total.....	386

G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

CAMPING REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, SALEM CIRCLE, FOR MAY, 1914.

The above tour, during which I travelled 366 miles by Rail and 228 miles by Road, after leaving Headquarters on the 11th May, was partly taken up inspecting three Agencies, visiting villages and attending to other instructions received. It was my first intention to halt at Kuppam for some time, but on arriving there I was unable to secure

any accommodation, as the Travellers' Bungalow was under repair and I had therefore to stay during the whole time at Tirupathur, which was the most central place for the work I had on hand. I was very pleased at having the opportunity of interviewing the Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar of Kuppam; and at Tirupathur, I had very pleasant and long interviews with several Government Officials, the District Superintendent of Police, North Arcot, the Inspector of Salt and Abkari, Vellore Circle, and the Tahsildar and also the local Medical Officer at Tirupathur. I was able in course of conversation with one or two of these gentlemen, regarding the advantages of the Commission in Southern India, to obtain a confirmation of the information I had secured in the villages myself, regarding the likely debts of the average emigrant cooly. From what I could gather, generally speaking, the very poor and independent classes who would be most likely to emigrate in the District, do not, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, or I should say, cannot possibly incur a debt of more than Rs. 5, at the utmost. There are, of course, a great many other castes of agricultural labourers who are bound more or less to their Masters and work for them alone, with no intention of emigrating, and though these coolies may be practically dependent for a living on their small daily wage, their employers will in many cases advance them up to Rs. 50 and in a few cases as much as Rs. 100 for marriage expenses or other festivities, if they are trusted servants, and the Landlord is sufficiently satisfied that there is no likelihood of their ever working for anyone but him. On occasions, if two rich landowners, with numbers of employees under them, quarrel, one has been known to make spasmodic and unusually large advances to his menials as an inducement to them to remain with him as well as if possible to entice the labourers of his opponent to leave the latter and work for him. The fact, however, must not be overlooked, that it is quite possible that these other employees emigrate on occasions, but I think, generally speaking, the average emigrant in the North Arcot District, at all events will not be found to be very heavily indebted, and in cases where a recruiter puts this fact forward as an excuse for being paid large advances, the reason can generally be put down to his desire to have plenty of money to display in his village as an inducement to the villagers to emigrate with him or with which to treat them to a feast and new clothes. There appear to be an enormous number of people emigrating to Penang from these parts and in almost every village one is told that four or five or twenty or "lots" have gone to Penang, but Ceylon is practically unknown.

On the 18th, visiting a village called Muttoor, of not more than 200 houses, the people who gathered round told me that several had gone to Penang, but not to Ceylon. I talked to the Village Munsiff here for some time and one man complained at great length that he had heard that no money was received from Ceylon. I told him that he was under quite a wrong impression, and he grunted and seemed satisfied. Men earn from 3 to 4 annas a day here, doing road work and cultivation and women earn 2 annas.

They did not show a very lively interest in emigration, and appeared fairly contented.

On the 20th, I visited Kodiur. Most of the people in this village secure a livelihood by working for the Railway and the average wage is 4 and 5 annas for men and 2 annas for women. A great many are reported to have gone to Penang but no one to Ceylon. From here I visited a village called Kilandaram. One individual was reported to have gone to Ceylon from this place and they heard from him shortly after he went over there 1½ years ago, but since then they have heard nothing and were very anxious to know if he still existed. They could not, however, give me the slightest idea where or with whom he had gone to Ceylon, so that beyond assuring them that no news was good news, and if he had gone to Ceylon he could have done worse, I could not do anything more for them. The wages are about the average, 4 as. and 2 as. and some of the people seemed rather interested in emigration. I next stopped at Vaniyambadi. This is a very large place of about 15,000 inhabitants and is very largely populated by rich Mohammedans. A great number of people have emigrated from here, mostly to Penang, but it is also an extremely notorious place for bogus gangs. The people, of course, when one visits a village like this, appear very anxious and keen on emigration, but I am afraid this interest is to a very large extent only surface and with the idea that it might be possible to secure the pecuniary advantages obtainable by emigration, this side of Talaimannar instead of the other. On the 21st, I visited a village called Kasinampatty where the people whom I talked to seemed extremely indifferent to emigration. It is possible for a man to earn as much as 8 annas a day here, working at the Mission Oil Press, but the ordinary wages are the same as anywhere else, 4 annas and 2 to 3 annas. One individual here looked most alarmed when I mentioned Ceylon and told me if he went there he would be promptly devoured by leeches. I pointed out to him that there were a great many happy and contented people over there who had not as yet experienced such a terrible fate. From here I went on to a village called Kandli. A few people have gone to Penang from this place but no one to Ceylon. They have made a great fuss about these people emigrating as only two came back and the others have not been heard of again. The local Mirasdars do all they can to prevent people emigrating though the wages paid are only 2 to 3½ annas. Crops do not appear to be in a good state and there has been practically no rain. Cooly classes incur no debts at all as they are too poor and have no security worth offering, but the permanent servants of a rich Landowner can borrow up to about Rs. 30, for the purposes I have mentioned. After this I stopped at a village called Periyagundoo which contained not more than fifteen houses. No one has gone anywhere from here and though their cultivation is in a very bad state I was unable to create any interest in them. The next day, the 22nd, I visited Vengalapuram. Between four and five have emigrated to Ceylon from this village, but those to whom I gave the Notices and spoke to them, showed very little in-

erest. I then stopped at two villages quite close to one another, called Madavalli and Madavatham. Altogether about eight people have gone to both Penang and Ceylon from here. Their wages are 4 annas and 2½ annas. They told me they had very little work to do as there had been so little rain. The next place was Kuchalapet. Between ten and fifteen people have emigrated to Ceylon and other places from here and have been writing to their relations since they went. The people seemed very pleased and one old man showed me, with great pride, a letter he had received from his son in Ceylon, three years ago, bearing the Ratnapura Post Mark. He said he had not heard from him since and would be delighted if he could. I was very much struck by the way this letter had been preserved and the way in which all the villagers alluded to it, showing that even though it was three years old, they still talked about it and showed the impression it had created among them when it was received. It is possible for villagers to earn from 6 to 8 annas, a day here, cutting bamboos in the Reserve Forest, so that they appeared fairly contented with their lot. From here I visited Rajapalem and Andiappanur. No one has emigrated from these two villages and they did not appear to be keen on doing so. They have had a little rain lately which has enabled them to start ploughing and preparing their lands. They earn from 2 to 4 annas a day. At the next place, Motur, about ten have gone to Ceylon and the people are very pleased indeed because they have received letters from them, though they have sent no money. The surrounding country looks fairly fresh and green, as there have been some heavy thunderstorms lately. There is work to be had in the Reserve Forest close by and it is possible for a man to earn up to 6 annas a day. I think a few seem keen to go from here on account of the fact that their friends have written good reports from Ceylon. I next stopped at a big village called Alangayam consisting of about 600 houses. About a hundred people have emigrated from here to Ceylon and write and send money periodically to their relations, which has pleased them very much. There seem to be a great many more anxious to go from here if their debts are paid, which, as far as I can gather, do not amount to very much. Most of the people are agricultural labourers and some of them who were working here on contract, did something wrong in their work and run away. I think this would be a good place to tap. I next stopped at Nimmapet, which is a small village and from which a few have gone to Penang, but no one to Ceylon. People showed no keenness whatever and said they were quite contented in their own village. On the 23rd, I visited Nattarampally, a large village containing several rich landowners. The people of this place are extremely influential and appear to be able to create almost any impression they like amongst the surrounding villagers. It is very gratifying, therefore, to know that they are very pleased with their knowledge of Ceylon and have nothing to complain of, as the six who have emigrated there, occasionally write and some have returned and taken others back with them. Wages are from 2 to 5 annas and their debts do not exceed Rs. 5. From here I went on to Puthu-

pet, which has a population of about five hundred. There appears to be very little local labour available and those who work require to be highly paid owing to the increase in the price of food grains. A few have gone to Ceylon, but a much larger number to Penang and rain does not seem to have been very abundant here.

On the 25th, I visited a village called Korati. None has gone to Ceylon from here but several to Penang. The people complained very bitterly that they had practically no work and were in a state of starvation and showed great interest in the contents of the Notice read out to them. Most of the houses to be tumbling down in this place and my impression is, therefore, that a good many would not be sorry to leave it, as they all seem very poor.

On the 26th, I stopped at Nattarampally Agraharam. About ten have gone from here both to Penang and Ceylon and they told me that they received letters from them now and again. They seemed fairly pleased and I think several could be got to emigrate from these parts if recruited properly. From here I stopped at Bandarapally. No one has emigrated at all from here and nothing seemed to be known about the advantages of emigration. Rain seems to have avoided this part of the country also and the people are, therefore, very idle just about now. They do not earn more than from 2½ to 3 annas a day. At the next place Periakallipally, I was told several had gone to Penang, but Ceylon was unknown. About thirty have emigrated from a village called Nakkudi close by, and some have returned with excellent reports and taken others back with them. They seemed, generally speaking, very pleased with what they know of emigration and are keen to go. Their crops look fairly good as rain has fallen lately pretty heavily.

On the 27th, I visited Vellacottah and saw the Village Munsiff and checked some Defaulting Cases. A large number of people, roughly 150 have gone to Penang and Ceylon and they seem to have a very good impression of emigration generally. There is very little work at present and they seem keen to go. Penang is far better known everywhere in these parts than Ceylon and a very large number have gone there, but I hope that now I have had the opportunity of distributing a large number of notices about here and visiting the villages myself, that it will be realised that such a place as Ceylon does exist and considerable advantages can be obtained by going there.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner.

CAMPING REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF ARCOT AND TELUGU CIRCLES FOR MAY, 1914.

On the 12th, I left by train to Villupuram arriving there late same night. The following day I spent at Villupuram on an enquiry at the Agency and that night I left for Chingleput where I arrived the following morning.

During the following three days I remained in Chingleput where I inspected the Agency and sent in my report.

On the morning of the 18th, I started by road to Madras. On the way I visited and advertised in the villages of Singaperumalkovil and Kattupakkam. Singaperumalkovil is a fairly big place and apparently Penang recruiters have been very busy there, but I was told that there was nobody there who had been to Ceylon. Indeed I was at first told that nobody had ever gone to Ceylon from the village, but this I knew not to be the case. Quite a number of coolies have gone to Ceylon from this village and I should think that it was a good place to get coolies, though there is a number of the shopkeeping class in the place. Kattupakkam is quite a small place and though there is a Railway station, people seem to be a very quiet lot. Coolies could certainly be got from here also. Near Kattupakkam unfortunately I had had trouble with my tyres and was obliged to proceed by train to Madras, where I inspected the Agency.

The following afternoon I met Mr. Cann, Messrs. James Finlay & Co.'s Labour Superintendent, at Villupuram who told me that he was going to Chingleput, visiting villages on the way, at 6 o'clock the following morning and we agreed to go together. On the morning of the 20th, therefore, we left for Chingleput by road and passed through the following villages on our way.

Saidapet, St. Thomas Mount, Minampakkam, Pallavaram, Kadaperi, Thambaram, Erumpulli, Vandalur, Otteri, Kelampakkam, Orampakkam, Kattankolathur and Singaperumalkovil. In the villages near Madras, I should think there was very little chance of recruiting labour and Pallavaram was really the first place we come to where good labour might be got. The paracheri in this place is a very large one and is divided into several parts. A good number of coolies has gone to Ceylon from here and I think there are plenty more to be had though the people of this place find work in Madras. This is to some extent a residential suburb of Madras, but there seem to be a number of small bungalows unoccupied. Kadaperi, Thambaram and Erumpulli are small unimportant places, but Vandalur is a fairly big place. The people here were very interested in the notices and asked many questions. I found that several coolies had gone to Ceylon and the villages seemed to know something about it. Here again I heard the usual complaints against the rapacity of the Ceylon Kangany and the coolies' chances of making money in Ceylon were violently contrasted with their experience of Penang. It was admitted, however, that Penang was too far away and people often died there or were never heard of them again.

The other places on the road are also quite small and it was often difficult to find anybody who could read. In all these villages the chief crops are paddy and ragi, rice being at four measures per rupee and ragi eight measures. Wages were between 4 and 5 annas a day with one meal and were paid in kind. The crops all over and there is now no work in the fields. I asked questions, as I usually do, about the average debts of the villagers and Mr. Cann agreed with me that it was very seldom a villager without land could borrow more than ten rupees.

At Singaperumalkovil we stopped again for a long time talking to the villagers and explaining the notices. I had

left word that I would be passing through the village again and wanted to see any people from Ceylon who were in the village, but I was told, that, though it had been found out that three or four coolies had been there they had all returned to Ceylon.

We reached Chingleput for breakfast and in the afternoon we went along the Madurantakam road as far as Palamatthur where we both had coolies from Ceylon to look up. There are only two other villages in this distance, Gundur and Mamandur, both of which we stopped in to advertise and make enquiries. I have been down this road more than once before and know it pretty well, besides several of the villages some distance from it along carttracks. All along the Madurantakam road and on both sides of it are villages from which many coolies have gone to Ceylon and there is plenty of labour to be had as a rule. Lately the crops have been very good and fewer coolies are going, but the work in the fields is now over and the numbers ought to increase largely during the next two months.

On the 22nd, I went down the Tirukalikunram road visiting the villages of Melameiyur, Sinnamelaneiyur, Vallam, Alapakkam, and Nemali and Gundur again. A good deal of my time on this occasion was taken up in dodging about between Vallam, Melameiyur and Gundur searching for a cooly whom I failed after all to get any trace of. It is curious to note that though these places are quite close to a thriving Agency like Chingleput and many coolies have gone from and returned to them and though I have previously advertised down this road as far as Salur on the way to Madras on the coast, Ceylon and Penang are still confused here.

Here too, of course, the crops have been good and the people seemed a little apathetic about emigrating. That will change in the next two or three weeks, however, unless they have more good rains at once, which is very unlikely. The first big place on this road is Tirukalikunram and all these are not much more than hamlets. This is not to say that they are not better places to get coolies in than Tirukalikunram itself; for that is rather a business place, though numbers of Ceylon coolies belong to it.

On the 23rd I received instructions to hold enquiries at the Agency and I remained there also on the 24th returning to Headquarters the following morning.

Recruiting in Chingleput District has been exceedingly disappointing during the past few months and this is chiefly due to the splendid rains which filled all the tanks in November last. This water has now all gone, however, except in the large tank known as Chingleput Lake where it is said there is still water enough for another year, but it is only a few villages round about that are supplied by this. The crops are all over and there will be no more crop works until the end of August or the beginning of September except in those few villages near the Lake where a third crop is being grown. Prospects look very much brighter during the next two or three months and indeed the month of July is generally the best for recruiting at this Agency.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE & JULY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
alem Circle.						
Coimbatore ...	(Erode Agency)					
	Erode	... Raising of				Recruiting prospects are the same as before; besides there will be high demand for labourers to work these months.
	Palladam	... different crops				
	Bavani	... will be commenced in these				
	Gopichetti	... months.				
	poliam	...				Food grains will be sold at high prices in the fields.
	Avanashi	...	6	4		
	P. Dharapuram	...				
	Satiamangalam	...				
	Udumalpet	...				
Pollachi	...					
Kollegal	...					
Malabar ...	(Cannanore Agency)					
	Cherakal	...				There has been no proper rainfall, there is water scarcity in some parts. Recruiting prospects are good.
	Kottayam	...				
	Kurambranad	...				
	Calicut	... Not encouraging	5 to 6	2½ to 3	Good	
	Ernad	...				
	Valluwanaad	...				
	Ponani	...				
	Palghat	...				
	Wynaad	...				
Malabar ...	(Palghat Agency)					
	Palghat	... Cultivation of paddy, etc., is going on in this month.	4 to 5	2½ to 3	Recruiting coolies now commences increasing up to August, 1914.	No other wages to coolies except cultivating.

G. S. DUPEN,

Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Arcot & Telugu Circles.

Chittoor ...	Chittoor	... Paddy & ragi growing poorly	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair
	Kalabastry	... do	do	do	do
	Karvetnagar	... do	do	do	Indifferent
	Palmanair	... do	do	do	do
	Vayalpad	... Paddy, ragi and sugarcane	do	do	Fair
	Madanapalli	... do	do	do	do
	Punganur	... do	do	do	Indifferent
	Chendragiri	... Paddy & ragi	do	do	do

TAMIL DISTRICTS.

North Arcot ...	Arcot	... Paddy, cholam, ragi and sesame.	4	2	Fair
	Guduyatam	... do	do	do	do
	Walaja	... do	do	do	do
	Vellore	... do	do	do	do
	Polur	... do	do	do	do
	Arni	... do	do	do	Bad
	Wandiwash	... do	do	do	do
	Tiruvannamalai	... do	do	do	Indifferent
	Arkonam	... Ragi transplanting and some are just sown.	do	do	Good

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE & JULY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Arcot & Telugu Circles.						
North Arcot ...	Cheyar	... Ragi trans-planting, kumbu and cholam young.	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	
	Putthur	... do	do	do	Good	
	Tiruvallur	... do	4 to 5	do	do	
	Ponneri	... do	do	do	Fair	
	Chingleput	... Nil	5	4	Good	
	Conjeeveram	... do	do	5	do	
	Madurantakam	Groundnuts fair	do	4	do	
South Arcot...	Saidapet	... Cumbu fair	6	do	do	
	Villupuram	... Groundnut will be over by the end of June.	5	do	do	
	Kallakurchi	... Sugarcane, cholam, cumbu and gingelly are under plantation.	do	do	do	
	Chidambaram	... Plantation of plantain and paddy are almost harvested.	do	do	do	
	Tindivanam	... Only minor portion of lands are cultivated by paddy.	do	do	do	
	Cuddalore	... do	do	do	do	
	Virudachalam	... Transplanting of paddy is in progress.	do	do	do	
	Tirukovilur	... do	do	do	do	
Telugu Districts.						
Cuddapah ...	Cuddapah	... Cultivation not commenced.	6	3	Good	
	Proddatur	... do	8	4	Bad	
	Badvel	... do	3	2	do	
	Sidhout	... do	do	do	Good	
	Pullampet	... do	4	do	do	
	Royachoty	... do	do	do	do	
	Pulivendla	... do	8	3	Bad	
	Kamalapuram	... do	4	2	Good	
	Jammalamadugu	... do	do	do	do	
	Darsi	... Nil	2	1½	Bad	
Nellore ...	Podili	... do	do	do	do	
	Kanigiri	... do	2½	1½	do	
	Kandukur	... do	do	do	do	
	Udagiri	... do	2	1½	do	
	Kavali	... do	3½	2	do	
	Atmakur	... Paddy being harvested in some places.	3	do	do	
	Kovoor	... do	4	3	do	
	Rapoor	... do	2	1½	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE & JULY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarter & Madura Circle.						
Trichinopoly	{ Manaparai Dn.... Kulitalai Tq. ... }	Not very fair for want of timely rain.	4	3	Good	
Tanjore	{ Arantangi ... Kumbakonam ... Mannargudi ... Mayaveram ... Nannilam ... Negapatam ... Papanasam ... Pattukottai ... Shiyali ... Tanjore ... Thiruthurai-poondi... }	Standing crops fair. Harvested gingelly, paddy & Rag in parts. Water supply insufficient in the Taluqs Arantangi and Pattukottai.	6	4	Fair	Local employment is available.
Tanjore (Ammapatam Agency)	{ Pattukottai ... Arantangi ... }	Good	6	3	Fair	
Puducottah State.	{ Alangudi ... Thirumayam ... Kolathur ... }	Ragi cultivation is going on in parts.	4 5 3½	3 3½ 2½	Good Very poor do	
Ramnad	{ (Mandapam Agency.) ... Satur ... Srivilliputhur ... Ramnad ... Kamudi ... Rasimangalam... Mudukolathur ... Kannagudi ... (Tondi Agency.) Thiruvadani ... Thirupathur ... Sivaganga ... Peramakudi ... }	No water in the lakes and tanks and so the lands are not ploughed. Crop prospects are only fair. Crops are good	4 4 to 6	3 3 to 4	Kanganies are recruiting in the villages and the recruiting prospects are expected to be good. Harvest and all local festivals are over and the recruiting prospects are good.	
Tinnevely	{ (Tinnevely Agency.) ... Tenkasi ... Ambasamudeam ... Tinnevely ... Nanguneri ... Sri Vaikundam ... Thiruchendur ... Koilpatti ... Sangaranainarkoil ... }	Good do Fair Not good Good Fair do Not bad	4½ 4½ 5 4 6 5½ 5 5	3 3 3½ 2½ 3 3 3½ 3	Fair	Inoculation scare in the villages is decreasing.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE & JULY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarter & Madura Circle.						
Travancore ...	Trivandram ...	Good	4	2½		
Trichinopoly	(Karur Agency)					
	Karur	Nil	4	2½	Indifferent	As harvesting crop is over, coolies will hereafter be available in these Taluqs. People who are living in dry lands are attending the cultivating work in fields for the produces Cumbu, Cholum and other grains, etc. Villagers live upon wages by construction of buildings and road works in Town.
Coimbatore ...	Dharapuram ...	Nil	4	2½	do	
		By recent rain in these Taluqs only Punja crops such as Ragi, Cholum, Ground nuts, Termaric, etc., have been cultivated and the paddy crops have already been harvested and there is no paddy crop at present.				
Madura ...	(Madura Agency)					
	Madura ...	Cotton crops fair. Tilling for paddy and Ragi in parts good.	6	3	Fair	Cotton crops are fair, harvest of paddy fair. No crops are standing except cotton and little patches of Ragi and paddy cultivation under wells. Rain is wanted to commence sowing. Water irrigation dried up throughout. Rain is very badly required. The price of staple food is too high. Maloor, Thirumangalam and Thirupuvanam Taluqs contribute a good number of coolies.
	Maloor ...	do	4	2	do	
	Periakulam ...	do	4	3	Indifferent	
	Nilakottai ...	do	3	2	do	
	Thirumangalam ...	do	4	2½	Good	
	Ramnad ...	do	4	2½	Fair	
	Thirupuvanam...	do	4	2	Good	
	Thirupathur ...	do	4½	3	Indifferent	
	Sivaganga ...	do	5	3	Good	
Mana Madura...	do	4	4	Indifferent		
Madura ...	(Dindigul Agency)					
	Dindigul and Palani ...	Young Cumbu and Cholum are good	6	3½	Fair	Harvesting is over in every places. No work for the labouring classes, we can get coolies, specially Udumalpet and Palani and other places are moderate.
	Nilacottai ...	do	5	2½	do	
	Periakulam ...	do	4	2	do	
	Coimbatore ...	{ Udumalpet & Pollachi ... }	do	5	2½		do
Salem Circle.						
Salem.	Salem Town ...	Fair	5	2½	Bad	As reported hitherto, the D. P. W. has taken most of the labour available around here for the building works started by them. There has been some rain lately and the monsoon is expected very shortly, so that most of the labourers in these parts are preparing their fields. This Taluk depends mostly on rain which is shortly expected and coolies are at present working in the fields.
	Salem Taluk ...	Moderate in places where well water is used.	4	2	Poor	
	Omalur ...	Moderate in one half and fair in the other	4	2	Moderate	

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE & JULY, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.	
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.			
Salem Circle.							
Salem	Trichengode	...	Fair	4	2	Poor	There are very few proper representatives of Ceylon working in this Taluk and the Mittadars, who are extremely influential, continue to do their best to prevent emigration.
	Uttangarai	...	Moderate.	4	2	Fair	Kanganies are feared by the people in this Taluk, but a lot of Coolies are emigrating, and are willing to emigrate, if recruited by Superintendents or in an open manner.
	Hosur & Krishnagiri	...	Moderate.	4	2	Poor	Coolies are going to Penang in large numbers from these Taluks but very few go to Ceylon as there are no recruiters working on a very extensive scale.
	Dharmapuri	...	Fair	4½	3	Fair	This Taluk has been well advertised in and coolies are to be had, but they are anxious to receive letters from those who have gone to Ceylon.
	Atur	...	Very fair.	4 in Atur. 3 in outside villages	3 2	Fair	There has been very little rain for the past 6 or 7 months and the coolies are emigrating in large numbers to Penang and the Straits from this Taluk, as they say they get higher wages over there. Ceylon Recruiters complain that though they travel from village to village, they cannot get coolies on this account. Cholan crop has been small.
Trichinopoly	Namakal	...	Moderate.	3 to 4	1½ to 2	Moderate	In some parts of the Taluk, where rain has fallen, there is a demand for labour, which is employed at present in ploughing and sowing. In other parts, where there has been no rain, people are badly off and will probably be glad to emigrate. Large numbers are also emigrating to Penang from these parts.
Trichinopoly	Musiri	...	In fair condition. Paddy has yet to be harvested in places Cumbu, Cholan & Ragi	4 to 6 in Towns. 3 to 5 in Villages.	2 to 3 in Towns. 1½ to 2½ in Villages.	Very fair.	The Kanganies recruiting in this area are returning with a fair number of coolies of a good stamp. There has been a little rain lately.
	Kulitalai & Perambalur	...	are being planted in places where well water is available.	Children 1½ to 2½ in both Towns and Villages.			
North Arcot	Tirupathur	...	Poor	4	2	Moderate	There is very little Ceylon recruiting going on in this Taluk while the number of coolies emigrating to Penang is enormous. My report on my May Tour will give further details regarding this Taluk, which seems a good recruiting ground and coolies will probably be secured now that I have been able to undertake extensive advertising in it. Rain has been very scarce, but lately there has been a little and as a result, the peoples' hopes have been raised.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE & JULY, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
North Arcot...	Kangundi Zemindari (Kuppam)	Fair	4	3	Moderate	Labourers are employed at present in the fields as there has been some rain lately. A large number of coolies are going to Penang and the Straits and there are no recruiters to speak of working in these parts. Most of the coolies passing through this Agency are recruited in Mysore.
Mysore	Mysore	Crops being sown	4½	2	Moderate	Coolies available in Mandaya, Yellandur, Krishnarajapet and Nagamangalam generally go to Coorg and the Nilgiris and have no wish to emigrate to any other country. I am making arrangements for the Agent to undertake short advertising tours periodically in order to get information about Ceylon into the best areas for recruiting in this State.
	Kanjangud	do	3½	2	Moderate	
	Chamarajanagar	do	4	2	do	
	Gundlupet	do	3½	2	do	
	Seringapatam	do	4½	2½	Bad	
	French Rocks	do	4	2	do	
	Mandaya	do	3	2	Moderate	
	Yedatorai	do	4	2	Bad	
	Yellandur	do	3½	2	Moderate	
	Krishnarajapet	do	3½	2½	Bad	
	Nagamangalam	do	4	2	do	
	T. Narasipur	do	4	2½	Moderate	
E. V. B. LEVINGE, Assistant Commissioner, Salem Circle, 31st May, 1914.						
Nellore	Nellore	Paddy being harvested	5	3½	Bad	
	Gudur	do	do	do	do	
	Vengatagiri	do	4	3	do	
	Sooloorpet	do	4	2½	do	
Guntur	Guntur	Cholam kambu red-gram and cotton	4 to 5	2 to 3	Indifferent	
	Vinukonda	do	do	do	do	
	Narasarowpet	do	do	do	do	
	Satnapalli	do	do	do	do	
	Bapatla	Paddy	do	do	do	
	Tenali	do	do	do	do	
Anantapur	Anantapur	Cholam and ragi good	5	3	Moderate	
	Dharmavaram	do	4	2	do	
	Gooty	Ploughing	do	1½	do	
	Thatpatry	do	5	2½	do	
	Kaliyandrug	do	4½	2	do	
Bellary	Bellary	do	5	2½	do	
	Royadrug	do	do	do	do	
	Hospet	do	do	do	do	
	Adony	do	4½	do	Bad	
Kurnool	Kurnool	Being plough and sown	5	2½	Moderate	
	Nandial	do	4½	2	do	
	Dhone	do	5½	2½	do	

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
Salem Circle,
31st May, 1914

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1914.

AGENCIES.	PREVIOUSLY.					MAY.					TOTAL.				G. TOTAL.	
	M.	W.	Ch.	I.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	I.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	I.		
HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE:—																
1. Cannanore	130	7	0	2	139	37	0	0	0	37	167	7	0	2	176	
2. Palghat	256	12	5	2	275	133	6	0	2	141	389	18	5	4	416	
3. Erode	306	75	34	24	439	110	28	14	12	164	416	103	48	36	603	
4. Karur	194	60	26	12	292	100	17	11	4	132	294	77	37	16	424	
5. Trichinopoly	3,516	1,051	721	366	5,654	2,699	959	671	339	4,663	6,215	2,010	1,392	705	10,322	
6. Manaparai	135	42	11	13	201	113	45	28	16	202	248	87	39	29	403	
7. Dindigul	393	113	44	29	579	175	57	26	10	268	568	170	70	39	847	
8. Tanjore	583	170	51	45	854	249	62	21	19	351	837	232	77	64	1,205	
9. Ammapatanam	71	17	10	3	101	6	4	0	2	12	77	21	10	5	113	
10. Pudukottah	294	86	76	36	492	151	38	51	17	257	445	124	127	53	749	
MADURA CIRCLE:—																
11. Madura	927	301	225	81	1,534	470	179	120	82	851	1,397	480	345	163	2,385	
12. Pamban	37	14	6	1	58	Closed.					37	14	6	1	58	
13. Mandapam	291	105	72	42	510	426	162	123	51	762	717	267	195	93	1,272	
14. Tinnevely	325	70	52	19	466	116	31	27	12	186	441	101	79	31	652	
15. Tataparai	420	128	40	32	620	182	62	36	22	302	602	190	76	54	922	
16. Tondi	143	51	28	19	241	49	19	5	4	77	192	70	33	23	318	
SALEM CIRCLE:—																
17. Nanjangud	44	9	2	2	57	10	4	1	0	15	54	13	3	2	72	
18. Dharmapuri	43	13	6	6	68	26	14	1	4	45	69	27	7	10	113	
19. Kuppam	25	3	2	2	32	9	3	2	2	16	34	6	4	4	48	
20. Tirupathur	5	6	0	1	12	3	1	0	0	4	8	7	0	1	16	
21. Salem	253	80	36	34	403	132	43	24	23	222	385	123	60	57	625	
22. Atur	58	24	16	9	107	51	17	9	8	85	109	41	25	17	192	
23. Namakal	158	52	46	30	286	57	22	17	14	110	215	74	63	44	396	
24. Turaiyur	48	30	14	11	103	68	39	29	22	158	116	69	43	33	261	
25. Musiri	64	19	17	7	107	112	44	46	20	222	176	63	63	27	329	
ARCOT CIRCLE:—																
26. Katpadi	383	129	61	39	612	185	71	23	16	295	568	200	84	55	907	
27. Arkonam	269	81	20	18	388	141	50	14	25	230	410	131	34	43	618	
28. Chingleput	270	80	25	19	394	157	59	33	9	258	427	139	58	28	652	
29. Villupuram	479	149	52	57	737	244	87	31	42	404	723	236	83	99	1,141	
TELUGU CIRCLE:—																
30. Guntakal	74	18	7	9	108	20	13	4	6	43	94	31	11	15	151	
31. Cuddapah	38	13	5	9	65	10	2	1	0	13	48	15	6	9	78	
32. Guntur	13	1	3	0	17	7	1	2	0	10	20	2	5	0	27	
33. Nellore	10	4	2	2	18	3	1	0	0	4	13	5	2	2	22	
34. Chittoor	11	12	1	2	26	Transporting Agency.					11	12	1	2	26	

1,0271 3,025 1,716 983 15,995 6,251 2,140 1,370 783 10,544 16,522 5,165 3,086 1,766 26,539
1913.....36,449

Total number of coolies shipped at the 4 Ports at Tuticorin, Ammapatan, Tondi and Mandapam as per Government returns up to

31st May, 1914.....29,605
31st May, 1913.....43,924

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched Monthly from Agency during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.
Telugu Circle.										
Guntakal	1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59
"	1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371
"	1914	22	29	51	22	73	35	108	43	151
Cuddapah	1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73
"	1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73
"	1914	12	33	45	...	45	20	65	13	78
Guntur	1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27
"	1914	2	2	4	6	10	7	17	10	27
Nellore	1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29
"	1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120
"	1914	7	...	7	7	14	4	18	4	22
Chittoor	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29
"	1914	...	...	...	16	16	10	26	Transformed as Transporting Agency. 26	

Agencies.	Years.		Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total
Telugu Circle.											
Madras (Trans-)	1912	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.. porting }	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.. Agency.)	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arcot Circle.											
Katpadi	... 1912	...	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1082
"	... 1913	...	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1263
"	... 1914	...	102	140	242	171	413	199	612	295	907
Arkonam	... 1912	...	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750
"	... 1913	...	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681
"	... 1914	...	114	69	183	61	244	144	388	230	618
Chingleput	... 1912	...	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953
"	... 1913	...	99	132	231	223	454	424	878	440	1318
"	... 1914	...	55	78	133	107	240	154	394	258	652
Villupuram	... 1912	...	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1277
"	... 1913	...	166	177	343	328	671	388	1059	682	1741
"	... 1914	...	118	140	258	167	425	312	737	404	1141
Madura Circle.											
Madura	... 1912	...	275	255	530	293	823	355	1178	603	1781
"	... 1913	...	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1738
"	... 1914	...	293	246	539	438	977	557	1534	851	2385
Pamban	... 1912	...	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	20
"	... 1913	...	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	22
"	... 1914	...	48	10	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58
Mandapam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	128	128	382	510	762	1272
Tinnevely	... 1912	...	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773
"	... 1913	...	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958
"	... 1914	...	133	108	241	113	354	112	466	186	652
Tataparai	... 1912	...	256	191	447	312	759	265	1024	522	1546
"	... 1913	...	267	352	619	433	1052	761	1813	741	2554
"	... 1914	...	122	161	283	157	440	180	620	302	922
Tuticorin (For- warding Agency)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	... 1912	...	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1070
"	... 1913	...	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970
"	... 1914	...	111	56	167	44	211	30	241	77	305
Closed Agencies :—											
Coconada	... 1912	...	..	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69
"	... 1913	...	6	15	21	37	58	closed	58	closed	58
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	... 1912	...	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	... 1912	...	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	147
"	... 1913	...	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	115
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	... 1912	...	...	27	27	12	39	31	70	44	114
"	... 1913	...	19	25	44	2	46	closed	46	closed	46
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	6	5	11	10	21	closed	21	closed	21
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand total	... 1912	...	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710	7365	18075	11717	29792
	... 1913	...	3491	3911	7402	4837	12239	9328	21567	14882	36449
	... 1914	...	2544	2798	5342	4030	9372	6623	15995	10544	26539

Salem Circle.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.
Nanjangud	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69
"	... 1914	...	6	25	15	40	17	57	15	72
Dharmapuri	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115
"	... 1914	...	9	25	34	43	25	68	45	113
Kuppam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	5	16	21	23	9	32	16	48
Tirupathur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85
"	... 1914	...	6	12	...	12	...	12	4	16
Salem	... 1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	826	1103
"	... 1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840
"	... 1914	42	71	113	122	235	168	403	222	329
Jolarpet (Trans- porting Agency.)	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	3	26	48	77	61	138	44	182
"	... 1914	...	21	21	42	84	23	107	85	192
Namakal	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	18	33	58	91	55	146	83	229
"	... 1914	...	23	41	64	119	167	286	110	396
Turaiyur	... 1912	...	5	32	37	43	29	71	137	208
"	... 1913	...	5	27	32	81	79	160	159	319
"	... 1914	...	16	5	21	72	31	103	158	261
Musiri	... 1912	...	3	15	29	47	39	86	112	228
"	... 1913	...	20	4	24	32	132	164	202	866
"	... 1914	...	13	2	15	34	73	107	222	329

Headquarter Circle.

Cannanore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	2	15	17	9	25	10	36
"	... 1914	...	35	18	53	27	80	139	87	176
Palghat	... 1912	...	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	302
"	... 1913	...	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	391
"	... 1914	...	38	89	127	65	192	83	275	416
Erode	... 1912	...	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	939
"	... 1913	...	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	1021
"	... 1914	...	50	106	156	121	277	162	439	608
Karur	... 1912	...	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	410
"	... 1913	...	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	527
"	... 1914	...	30	83	113	73	186	106	292	424
Trichinopoly	... 1912	...	740	1036	1776	1556	3332	3276	6608	12665
"	... 1913	...	994	1261	2195	1453	3648	4081	7729	15368
"	... 1914	...	740	796	1536	1371	2907	2747	5654	10322
Manaparai	... 1912	...	114	103	214	185	349	129	478	822
"	... 1913	...	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	1269
"	... 1914	...	28	25	53	69	122	79	201	403
Dindigul	... 1912	...	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	835
"	... 1913	...	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	1166
"	... 1914	...	140	125	265	149	414	165	579	847
Tanjore	... 1912	...	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	879
"	... 1913	...	109	116	255	149	404	192	596	943
"	... 1914	...	111	175	286	252	538	316	854	1205
Aminapatnam	... 1912	...	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	383
"	... 1913	...	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	444
"	... 1914	...	35	20	55	29	84	17	101	113
Puducottah	... 1912	...	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	698
"	... 1913	...	56	114	167	65	232	460	308	768
"	... 1914	...	44	96	140	122	262	230	492	749

3rd Class Passenger Fare from Polgahawella (C. G. R.) to all Agency Stations of South India, via Talaimannar.

Agencies.	Fare.		Agencies.	Fare.	
	Rs.	Cts.		Rs.	Cts.
Erode ...	7	70	Villupuram ...	8	20
Karur ...	7	37	Chingleput ...	8	70
Tanjore ...	7	25	Madras ...	9	00
Trichy ...	7	00	Nanjangud ...	11	8
Manaparai ...	6	82	Kuppam ...	9	37
Palghat ...	8	38	Chittoor ...	9	17
Cannanore ...	9	45	Guntur ...	12	55
Dindigul ...	6	45	Cuddapah ...	10	24
Madura ...	6	00	Nellore ...	10	29
Tinnevely ...	7	00	Guntakal ...	11	85
Tataparai ...	6	95			
Mandapam ...	5	13			
Salem ...	7	95			
Dharmapuri ...	8	45			
Tirupatur ...	8	50			
Jolarpet ...	8	57			
Katpadi ...	8	95			
Arkonam ...	9	00			

Arrangements to issue through tickets are not complete.

Stations on Madras and Southern Mahratta Railways.

Atur (including Road journey 36 miles from Salem)... 8 95
 Namakal 20 miles from Karur ... 8 38
 Puducottah Motor Service ... 9 00
 Turaiyur Road journey 30 miles from Trichy ... 8 00
 Musiri 1 mile from Kulitalai ... 7 20
 Ammapatnam } By Steamer.
 Tondi }

N.B.—These figures represent 3rd Class Passenger fares. The cooly rate for these stations will be the above figures less Rs. 2-67 in each case, provided the Superintendent of the Estate gives the cooly the usual Ceylon Government Railway voucher, which can be obtained from the Traffic Superintendent, Colombo, on application.

Kanganies and coolies proceeding to stations on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway should only be through booked as far as Trichinopoly, from which place they can be provided with tickets for their destination by the Commission.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month ending May, 1914.

DETAIL.																						Instructional Staff.					
Regtl. Staff		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieute.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sqd. Q. M. Sergt.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Total.	REMARKS.	
A. Squadron		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	8	1	1	1	3		
Staff		..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	4	..	..	..	..
No. I. Troop		..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	25	27	28	..	..	..	..
" II. "		..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	5	..	..	..	..	..
" III. "		..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	16	19	20	..	..	..	..	..
" IV. "		..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	4	3	1	20	29	30	..	..	..	..
TOTAL		..	1	1	3	..	5	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	1	5	5	1	65	82	87	..	..	..	..	..
B. Squadron																											
Staff		..	1	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	5	..	..	..	..
No. I. Troop		..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	9	13	14	..	..	..	..
" II. "		..	..	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	9	10	10	..	..	..	..
" III. "		..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	17	20	21	..	..	..	..
" IV. "		..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	4	7	8	..	..	..	..
TOTAL		..	1	1	3	..	5	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	1	4	2	2	39	53	58	..	..	..	..	..
Total Regt. Staff	..	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	8	..	..	..	..	..
Total A. Squadron	1	1	3	..	5	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	1	5	5	1	65	82	87	..	..	..	..	..
Total B. Squadron	1	1	3	..	5	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	1	4	2	2	39	53	58	..	..	..	..	..
Total Strength	..	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	..	2	2	6	1	2	9	7	3	104	138	153	1	1	1	3	..	
Total Strength last Return	..	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	..	2	2	6	1	2	9	6	4	107	141	156	..	..	..	..	..
Increase Since	
Decrease Since	
Establishment	..	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	3	..	
Wanting to Complete	3	..	3	..	..	1	..	2	5	..	..	4	1	5	80	96	99	..	..	..	..	..
Reserve	..	1	1	2	6	..	10	1	1	1	1	1	8	..	..	2	1	1	32	48	58	..	..	..	..	..
Total including Reserve	..	2	4	5	13	1	25	2	2	1	3	2	14	1	2	11	8	4	136	186	211	1	1	1	3	..	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,
 Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1914.

Cor.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.										Lieut.-Colonel, Majors, Captains, Lieutenants, 2nd Lieutenants, Adjutant, Qr. Master, Sergt.-Major, Qr. M. Sergt.				Colour-Sergeant, Sergeant, Lance-Sergts. & Corpls, Sergt.-Bugler, Buglers, Privates and Lance-Corporals.				Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.	
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Sergt.-Major.	Qr. M. Sergt.	Colour-Sergeant.	Sergeant.	Lance-Sergts. & Corpls.	Sergt.-Bugler.	Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.				
	Staff	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	4	
A.	Kelani Valley	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3	39	46		
	Ratnapura	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	13		
	Pelmadulla	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	9	68	
B.	Kandy	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	16	20		
	Matale	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	11	14		
	Madulkelle	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	7	9		
C.	Rangalla	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	10	12	55	
	Mattakelle	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	6	10		
	Agrapatna	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	8	11		
D.	Kotagalla	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	9	11		
	Darawella	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	6	6		
	Maskeliya	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	9	11		
E.	Bogawantalawa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	7	8	57	
	Nuwara Eliya	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	9	10		
	Madulsima	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	9	11		
F.	Haputale	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	10	12		
	Badulla	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	17	21		
	Uda Pussellawa	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	7	10		
G.	Batticaloa	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	8	11	75	
	Kalutara	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	23	27		
	Kurunegalla	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	17		
H.	Galle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	19	20		
	Morawak Korale	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	
	Anuradhapura	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	9	12		
I.	Trincomalie	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	4	80	
	Colombo	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	..	44	51	51	
	Ambegamuwa	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	9	11		
J.	Pussellawa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	14	16		
	Dolosbage	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	11	13	40	
	Colombo	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	..	45	56	56	
K.	Motor Cycle Section	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	15	18	18	
					
					
TOTAL STRENGTH		1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1	6	18	26	1	5	416	500	500				
Strength by last Return		1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1	6	18	26	1	5	416	500					
Increase Since																					
Decrease Since																					
Total.																					
C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File								55	=	64	Increase	..	..	..	Nil			
Total Strength including Reserve								564			Reserve	..	..	..	Nil			

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.



SABARAGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of Meeting held on Saturday, April 25th, 1914.

On Saturday, April 25th, 1914, a Committee Meeting of this Association was held at the Club, Ratnapura, at 10.30 a.m.

There were present Messrs. Geo. Brown, Chairman, J. Hawke, E. R. E. Geddes, W. H. Winthrop, J. L. Hoare, C. Watkins Baker, D. Robertson, A. D. Sly, P. S. Bridge, L. Watkins Baker, G. H. Coldwell, E. Maberly Byrde, R. Brough, and E. C. Villiers, Honorary Secretary.

This meeting was followed at 1 p.m. by a Special General Meeting to pass the new rules. There were present the above mentioned gentlemen and Messrs. A. P. Holland, C. D. Green, A. Nicol, J. L. Grierson, J. Stogden, W. W. Martyn, S. W. Smith, C. L. Alsop, D. Mc. D. Berry, J. L. Mackie, W. S. Lovatt Frazer, and visitors, Messrs. D. P. Macdonald, R. J. Morris, and Jas. Urquhart.

When the notice calling the meeting had been read the Chairman rose and addressed the meeting, saying that there seemed to be complete unanimity over all the rules save that of Labour. On this rule there was endless division of opinion, he therefore put it to the meeting as to whether they would have any rule or none. It was then unanimously agreed that there should be a rule. This being the case the Chairman said that it was impossible without a time limit, to finish the discussion that day, so he proposed to lay before members three alternatives (1) A proposal of a private member, Mr. A. D. Sly; (2) the proposal of the Balangoda section; and (3) he would propose the old rule which was only a matter of courtesy and no rule. These three would be spoken to in turn and after a fifteen minutes interval, members would be called upon to vote. With these introductory remarks the Chairman called upon Mr. Sly to speak.

Mr. Sly, rising, addressed the members saying that while the rule as proposed might be good, yet he did not consider it sufficiently far-reaching. It would be remembered that the original rule read.

"All members of this Association, whether federated or non-federated should in all cases, before taking on coolies from another member of this Association, first of all obtain the consent of the paying-off member in writing, and if the paying-off member should refuse in one case he must refuse in all cases as far as this Association is concerned."

And he suggested the following addition as an amendment:—

"—But in the event of the paying-off estate being unable to keep the coolies, and the coolies wishing to leave the districts, which comprise the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association the first applicant be given the opportunity of taking on the said coolies."

In explanation of his point Mr. Sly said it seemed that now-a-days the Tamil Labour Force was always striving against the Planter, and hindered him at every turn, and he considered it justifiable to retaliate and impede them, in fact to tie them down and prevent the moving about of coolies at the whim of any Kangany. He knew some people felt that his amendment impeded the freedom of the cooly but he could not see that this was not the right line to take, and he considered that they should be bound to the utmost limit that the Law allowed. He further thought that as Sabaragamuwa was one of the leading districts it behoved them to take the matter up seriously and that all help should be given to the Proprietors' Labour Federation which has in view the prevention of coolies' debts increasing.

Mr. Brough seconded.

Mr. HOARE asked what guarantee would be given that the first man to whom the tundu was taken would be given the option by the paying-off estate.

CHAIRMAN: I am afraid we have no guarantee at all.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon Mr. Villiers to speak on behalf of the Balangoda section.

Mr. VILLIERS said that there was a great deal in what Mr. Sly had said and that the proposal of the Balangoda section was very similar in all respects, save one and there he thought the crux of the question lay. This one point was the freedom of the cooly. Mr. Villiers thought that the idea of having to bind and tie the cooly down was neither politic nor worthy of what Mr. Sly had so aptly described as one of the leading District Associations. He then read the Balangoda proposal which was as follows:—

"That no member of the Sabaragamuwa P.A. do take on coolies from fellow-members, without the written permission of the paying-off superintendent, and should this permission be withheld in any case, the paying-off superintendent, may not sanction another member of the Sabaragamuwa P.A. employing these coolies without giving the first applicant the opportunity of taking them on; if this right be not claimed the paying-off superintendent shall be at liberty to pay the coolies off to whomsoever he will."

It would be seen from this Mr. Villiers said that the cooly was freer and so also the planter that whereas Mr. Sly's proposal the coolies could not be allowed to go to any estate in the district if once one estate had been refused by the Balangoda Rule, the paying-off superintendent was at perfect liberty to let them go to any estate in the district, provided the first applicant were given a chance of taking them on first. It also gave the paying-off superintendent, who may have been compelled to issue a tundu, a chance to settle matters before the expiry of date of same, and if he failed, he could still pay the coolies off and keep them in the district which was a point for the common good.

This was seconded by Mr. WINTHROP.

The CHAIRMAN then said there seemed to be a great deal to say for both arguments, probably, so much disagreement however having risen it seemed to him it might be best

if neither were passed and he proposed as an alternative the old rule:—"That no member of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association shall take on any cooly from any other member of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association without first obtaining the written consent of the paying-off member." This he said left the subject a matter of courtesy and the *Noblesse oblige* of gentlemen to carry out the spirit of the rule. He then adjourned the meeting for 15 minutes for informal discussion. On returning, the three proposals were voted upon, the votes for these were 7, 6 and 12 respectively. The Chairman's proposal was accordingly declared adopted.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

At 1-30 p.m. a General Meeting was held at the same place when the same gentlemen were present. The notice calling the meeting was read and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN then brought forward the New Rules which were duly carried and confirmed.

The next matter on the Agenda was Local Jurisdiction the Honorary Secretary had no correspondence to bring forward at that time and the Chairman had had representations made that the subject was receiving the careful attention of all concerned and that any case of interest should be at once sent to the Honorary Secretary.

On Rinderpest there was no discussion the Chairman pointing out that notices had been sent to all members of every outbreak that had occurred.

Plague.—This the Chairman said had been put on the Agenda: Not that there was any information or correspondence on the matter, but in case any member wished to discuss the subject or make any remarks.

Motor transport was the next item on the list. The Chairman said this subject now was of paramount importance owing to Rinderpest and also owing to the great strides it had made in Ceylon lately. On this subject they had a letter from the Director of Public Works which the Honorary Secretary then read:—

MOTOR LORRY TRAFFIC.

No. 548.

Colombo April 8th. 1914.

From the Director of Public Works.

To E. C. VILLIERS, Esq., Honorary Secretary,

Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association.

Keenagaha Ella, Balangoda.

Sir,

I have the honour, in reference to your letter of the 1st instant, to inform you that Messrs. Whittall & Co. have already received permission to run one Motor Lorry, not exceeding 2½ tons total weight of Lorry and load, from Ratnapura to Pinnawella on the same grounds you put forward, and permission is now given to run a second vehicle of the same description from Ratnapura to Balangoda and over the Chetnole road or to Keenagaha Ella.

2. The bridges on the Palamadulla-Balangoda road are weak, and are now under reconstruction, and the load allowed is the absolute limit of safety. I therefore beg you to impress on those using the vehicle the necessity of seeing that the load is never exceeded.

3. Four bridges on the road being under reconstruction, the

lorries may from time to time be unavoidably delayed by the work of altering the old platforms to new, and you must be prepared for occasional delays on this account.

4. I anticipate that all the weak bridges up to the 85 mile post will be strengthened or reconstructed in six months time. As difficulties with foundations have been met with, it is not yet possible to give a very definite date.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. WADDELL,

for Director of Public Works.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that this was very satisfactory.

Mr. BRIDGE: Is this for the individual estates or for all?

The CHAIRMAN: It seems to convey that only two lorries in all are to be allowed to run.

Mr. VILLIERS said he did not think this referred to any definite number of lorries because it would be so manifestly unfair. In the present circumstances, for instance, Messrs. Whittall & Co. had obtained leave for the use of one lorry, it only remained for a single enterprising individual to get the other and you had all the makings of a corner in Motor Traffic. He suggested, therefore, that Government be asked if there were any objection to 3 or more being placed on the road at once.

Mr. SLY suggested that the privilege might be extended to Rakwana Road.

Mr. BRIDGE proposed that the Deila Road be included. Other roads were also mentioned.

It was agreed that the Director of Public Works be written to on the matter.

Mr. HOARE thought that many would welcome the employment of Motor Lorries if they knew more details such as cost of Running, Upkeep and Life of a Lorry. He suggested that members and others who had any knowledge on the subject should be written to and asked to send all available figures to the Honorary Secretary. Mr. Hoare framed a resolution to this effect, which was seconded by Mr. Villiers and carried.

Motor Mail Service was the next item. The following correspondence was read on the question of running a Motor Mail Service between Ratnapura and Rakwana instead of a Horse Service. On 9th February the Honorary Secretary wrote to, and got from, the Postmaster General the following letter:—
Registered No. 55726/11.

Colombo, 23rd March, 1914.

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 21st March, 1914, I have the honour to inform you that the present contract taken by Messrs. Pate for a Horse Coach Service does not expire till June 30th, 1915, and that I am unable meanwhile to take the Contract out of their hands.

2. Owing to an epidemic among their horses I gave them permission to use Motor Cars for the service till the horses could safely be replaced.

3. On receipt of your letter dated February 9th I wrote to Messrs. Pate asking if they had any proposal to make for establish-

ing a permanent Motor Service for the remaining period of their contract, but in spite of their attention being twice called, have as yet received no reply.

4. Tenders will be invited in due course for *inter alia* a Motor Service to commence on expiration of the existing contract.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

F. J. SMITH.

Postmaster General.

He then wrote to Messrs. Pate & Co. as follows:—

"At a special Committee Meeting of the above Association held in Ratnapura on the 28th March I was asked to write to you and draw your attention to the Mail Contract held by you between Ratnapura and Rakwana, and to point out that the Hon. the Postmaster General informs us that in spite of two applications, he can get no reply from you to his letter asking if you have any proposals to make for establishing a Motor Mail Service for the remaining period of your contract.

As apparently it was owing to representations made by you that my Association took this matter up on your behalf, I shall be glad to hear if you have received the letters referred to by the Postmaster General and if his questions have now been replied to, and if so to what effect you made reply."

and received the following reply:—

"We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st April addressed to our Ratnapura Office which was forwarded to us for attention. We regret that owing to the recent death of our senior Mr. C. H. Pate we are unable to say anything regarding proposed Motor Service to Rakwana and Balangoda until probate has been granted and matters regarding his estate have been settled. We are in a position now to say that we are prepared to undertake the establishment of a permanent Motor Service, between Rakwana and Balangoda and Pelmadulla and Rakwana once daily each way, for an extra subsidy of Rs. 3,600 (Rupees three thousand six hundred) per annum." We regret that circumstances should have prevented our communicating with the P.M.G. earlier."

Mr. WINTHROP said they had heard the facts of the matter and that Messrs. Pate & Co. had asked for an increased subsidy of Rs. 3,600/-. It now remained for us to find out what Government's reply was to that. He framed a resolution that Messrs Pate be written to, and asked for their reply from Government.

Mr. GREEN seconded.

Kukul-Korale Road: The Honorary Secretary said that acting on his own responsibility he had sent certain information to Messrs. Carson & Co. of Colombo instead of delaying matters to get the sanction of the Chairman. The Chairman said the Hon Secretary had done quite right and asked the meeting to confirm the action. This was done.

Mr BRIDGE thought that while Government was thinking of continuing the Kukul-Korale Road it might be a good thing if they had kept the already opened part in proper repair and framed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Geddes, viz:—"That Government be asked to maintain the present portion of the Kukul-Korale Road from Tiriwanaketiya to Karawita in first-class order as at the present time it is in a condition necessitating great delay in transport and great strain on cattle employed,"

RAILWAY EXTENSION.—The Chairman said they had no definite information as to whether the Opanaika extension was to be carried out but they noted and thought it would be all right.

FANS ON K. V. LINE.—The Hon. Secretary had written to the General Manager but beyond being told early in February that the General Manager was considering the possibility of providing fans, no further could be got in spite of several reminders.

EARLY STARTING OF NIGHT TRAIN.—The Hon. Secretary said that for a long time correspondence on this subject had been going on, but nothing definite could be heard from the General Manager. However, he had that day unofficially informed that this early starting was a *fair accompli* but no definite date could be given, however, it would be the 1st of May.

ITINERATING POLICE MAGISTRATE.—The Hon. Secretary said that this was not been lost sight of, but he had been informed some time must elapse before anything definite could be settled. Nobody had gone to sleep and he hoped by next meeting to have some further information.

SURVEYS.—Some interesting figures were given which the Hon. Secretary had received from the Surveyor-General, but it was to be regretted that a larger staff had not been employed to deal with the big district so rapidly coming to the front. Mr. Villiers proposed and Mr. Brown seconded that the Surveyor-General, and the chief officer, Land Settlement Department, be written to and asked if they could not see their way to increase their present staff considerably, and if they could not start, operations from the Balangoda end of the Province, to prevent the enormous delay that must take place if work in the other districts is to be completed first.

Applications for new Membership were read from Ekkerale and Lelloopitiya estates which, being duly proposed and seconded, were elected members.

GENERAL.—Mr. Bridge proposed that Government be asked to provide a Post and Telegraph Office at Deila which is now a big centre. This would accommodate about 12,000 acres of tea and rubber estates, up the Weyganga Valley as well as a very big population of natives beside those employed on estates. This was seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Mr. SLY said that he had heard on good authority that the present extension to Kahawatte had been delayed owing to the unwillingness of land-holders to part with their lands as they had not received payment for those lands given up for the making of the Deila Cart Road. This it is true he said seemed hardly credible having in view the lapse of time; but in any case he thought the Association should impress upon Government the necessity of paying for land acquired for this Road if it was impeding the Pelmadulla Extension. It might be that Government did not want to construct the railway too soon but owing to Rinderpest and increased difficulties of transport the sooner the Railway was taken to Kahawatte, the better. He proposed and Mr. Holland seconded: That Government be asked, whether

the claims of land holders for payment of the sums agreed upon for purchase, and compensation in connection with the Deila Road, have in every case been satisfied, and if not, are the present delay in the acquisition of land, and the unwillingness of landholders to allow the Pelmadulla Extension to pass through their lands not directly attributable to this withholding of payments.

Mr. Bridge said that all land on the Deila Road had been given by the Companies concerned. It was the native land-holders that had to be paid.

A member asked if "withhold" was not rather a strong word, and suggested the use of the word "delay" or some similar word. Mr. Bridge said it was not too strong as the road had been cut four or five years.

CHAIRMAN: If the facts are as stated it is not a bit too strong. The resolution was carried.

A resolution from the Badulla Planters' Association was read re Government Reservations for Paths, Minor Roads, Streams being vexatious, &c. This was unanimously supported.

Shot-hole Borer.—A letter received from the Secretary, Parent Association, enclosing Government's proposals re above pest and it was resolved that the said proposal met with the entire approval of the Meeting.

Hospitals.—The following letters were read:—
(FROM THE COLONIAL SECRETARY).

"With reference to your letter of 9th February, 1914, I am directed to state that an estimate amounting to Rs. 78,000 for the conversion of Ratnapura Jail into Hospital Buildings has been sanctioned by Government. It is anticipated that Rs. 30,000 will be spent during the current financial period.

With regard to the Kahawatte Hospital (Pelmadulla) an estimate amounting to Rs. 118,000 for the construction of the Hospital has been sanctioned. Provision has been made for the expenditure of Rs. 30,000 during the current financial period.

Authority has been issued for the survey of the site, and the acquisition proceedings will be expedited."

(FROM THE D. M. O., BALANGODA.)

"I am directed by the Provincial Surgeon, Sabaragamuwa Province, to inform you that the Hon. P.C.M.O. and I.G.H., has asked Government to include provision in the year 1914-15 Supply Bill for the following improvements to Balangoda Hospital:—Quarters for 8 attendants, five males and three females; an extra bed-room for Nurses; Sunshades over two doors and two windows, administration block; chimneys to all kitchen fire-places; hackery shed for visiting apothecary; coach house to District Medical Officer's quarters; Ceiling to drawing-room of D. M. O.'s quarters and drains round the quarters; and barbed wire fence.

and it was remarked that it seemed a very satisfactory state of affairs.

A letter was read from the Secretary, Parent Association, re Delwella Tin Ticket Bill which had not been paid in spite of repeated applications. As the Manager had just gone home on leave without acknowledging or replying to any of the Honorary Secretary's letters, no information could be given, but the present Manager promised to give his immediate attention. A letter was read from Mr. Greig of Illabuluwa on the subject of notice coolies returning to another estate after being at the Coast. It was agreed that

the Parent Association be written to and asked to advise this Association as to the position of members in cases of false information being given at Ragama whether by Notice Coolies or otherwise, and also Mr. Drummond Hay, a former Chairman of this Association be written to, as he had had a somewhat similar case.

Some letters from Mr. Smale were read and it was resolved that Mr. Smale be asked to come to Meetings and speak for himself to his own complaints.

A letter from the Government Agent re closing of Toddy and arrack Taverns met with no discussion. Certain other Circulars were tabled and this, together with a vote of thanks to the chair, terminated the proceedings.

E. C. VILLIERS,

Hon. Sec.

KEGALLE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held in the resthouse, Kegalle, at 2 p.m., May 9th, preceded by a Committee Meeting at 12-30 p.m. Mr. Jackson Smale presided and others present were:—Messrs. A. A. Franklin, A. E. Barrs, E. G. Ward Simpson, G. O. Trevaldwyne, A. G. Bayley, J. H. Lukin, J. S. Larken, H. G. Habgood, J. R. Thistle, V. C. Lamb, H. De Lisle Tupper, D. E. Hamilton, C. T. Sinclair, and H. G. Wells. Visitors:—Messrs. H. Mason, J. Baldwin, E. I. Beech, S. Skrene, P. McConnell, L. Morgan, V. F. S. Crawford, I. S. Marshall, W. Maltby, C. F. Whittaker, P. F. H. Bayley, and R. R. Oakley (Hon. Secretary.)

The notice convening the meeting was read and the minutes of the last meeting were passed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. re Rice was laid on the table.

KANDY CEMETERIES.

The CHAIRMAN said he had received a circular from the Hon. Secretary and pointed out that anybody who had not subscribed could do so as the list had not yet been closed.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

A letter from the Secretary of the Parent Association enclosing draft regulations drawn up for the prevention of the further spread of this pest was read by the Hon. Secretary. After discussion it was proposed by Mr. THISTLE and seconded by Mr. BAYLEY that the following resolution be sent to the Parent Association. "That imported plants be subjected to the same regulations."

This was carried.

RINDERPEST.

A circular had been received from the Assistant Government Agent, Kegalle, that rinderpest was prevailing in the following villages:—Teddugala, Bulatkohupitiya, Karandeniya, Mudugamuwa, and Maliadda.

On being asked what steps the Government was taking, the CHAIRMAN replied that he understood the usual regulations were being enforced.

TODDY TAVERNS.

The CHAIRMAN said that he regretted that through illness he had been unable to attend the Excise Advisory Committee, on which he was their representative. The only business was the proposed closing of two toddy taverns in the Galboda Korale, two in the Paranakuru Korale, and one in the Beligal Korale, but he had not heard the result of the meeting. Mr. Bayley asked the Chairman if he would kindly read out the names of the proposed taverns, which he did.

POST OFFICE.

The SECRETARY read out letters received from the P.M.G. with regard to the Post Office which had been sanctioned at Ambepussa. He said that a plan of a house suggested by Mr. Nugawela, R.M., giving the necessary accommodation for the present needs had been sent to him by Mr. Lamb. The plan was now in the hands of the P.M.G. and receiving consideration.

ROADS.

A letter was read from the D.P.W. in reply to a letter from the Hon. Secretary *re* resolutions passed at the last meeting with regard to condition of roads in the District. The D.P.W. said that the state of the portions of the roads complained of was due to flood damage, that repairs had since been effected and that these roads were now in satisfactory order. The opinion of the meeting was that this was not the case.

KEGALLE-BULAT KOHUPITIYA ROAD.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was gratifying to see that the culverts in places on this road had been widened and now that suitable weather had come the metal which had been previously prepared all along the road was being laid. He also mentioned that railings were being erected at the dangerous bend at the second mile post. At the last meeting the Secretary was asked to send in to the D.P.W. Mr. Barrs's resolution to the effect that the road at this corner should be deviated from its original course and the trace carried straight across the paddy field. This had been done, but no direct reply received. He proposed that the Secretary do again write to Government on this matter. This was agreed to.

Mr. TREVALDWYN said that he wished to bring forward the fact that nothing had yet been done to the dangerous rocky corner between the 5th and 6th mile posts from Kegalle on this road, also the Morantota bend and the corner above the Matopitiya Factory turn off. He said that he knew of other districts in which a great deal of money was spent in cutting back and widening corners which were not nearly so dangerous as these death traps. He proposed that the District Engineer be strongly written to on the subject. This was seconded by Mr. LUKIN and carried.

COLOMBO-KANDY ROAD.

RIGHT-ANGLED CORNER NEAR VICTORIA BRIDGE.

The CHAIRMAN was glad to see that steps were being taken to remove the three houses at the corner at the 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile post, which had been complained about by the Association.

The SECRETARY read out correspondence with the Automobile Club *re* the bad state of the road over the first 12 miles out from Colombo. Several members who had been lately over this part of the road said that there was no improvement.

Mr. TUPPER spoke at some length about the very dangerous corner on the Kandy side of the Victoria Bridge, where the road leaves the bank of the Kelani River and turns inland. All traffic was obliged to slow up at this right-angled corner as it was impossible to see anything approaching from the opposite direction. Mr. Tupper proposed that the road be carried straight on to Victoria Bridge instead of turning inland. He was surprised that Government had not already made this improvement.

The CHAIRMAN said that also certain of the estates sent their goods by road direct to Colombo, and he thought that it would be advisable for the Automobile Club to take the matter up and to ask them to place it on their next agenda. This was agreed to.

MINOR ROADS.

Mr. LAMB asked if a new Superintendent of Minor Roads had been appointed in place of Mr. de Kretser.

Mr. BARRS, member on the D.R.C., said that a man had been nominated, but that the appointment had not yet been confirmed.

Mr. LAMB asked who was supervising District Roads in the meantime, as nothing had been done to the Warakapola Road.

Mr. BARRS said that the overseers were carrying on the routine work until the new Superintendent was appointed, but that he would write and enquire when this appointment was likely to be sanctioned.

Mr. BAYLEY informed the meeting that the P.W.D. had taken over the Karandapona-Rambukkana Road and were putting it into good order and building new bridges. But he had heard on very good authority that they intended handing this back to the D.R.C. when they had completed the work. He would like to know whether this was the case.

Mr. BARRS said that this road had been taken over two years ago, by the P.W.D. but he had not heard anything of the rumour that this road was to be handed back to the D.R.C. He would enquire into it.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had never heard of a road which had been taken over by the P.W.D. being handed back to the D.R.C.

Mr. BAYLEY said that he understood an extra grant had been asked for by the D.R.C. from the Government to meet the damage caused by floods and asked whether this had been sanctioned.

Mr. BARRS said that the grant had been sanctioned, and he would enquire when they were likely to get it.

HOSPITALS.

KEGALLE, UNDUGODA AND ARANAYAKE.

The SECRETARY read out the following letter received from the P.C.M.O. in reply to his letter *re* nurses for the Kegalle Hospital.

KEGALLE HOSPITAL—NURSES FOR.

Colombo, February 23rd, 1914.

THE HONORARY SECRETARY,
Kegalle Planters' Association,
Higgoda Estate, Undugoda,

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 11th instant, I have the honour to inform you that provision has been made in the current estimates for the erection of quarters for a matron and two nurses. The necessary provision for their appointment will be made in the next estimates.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. J. RUTHERFORD.

The SECRETARY was asked to thank the P.C.M.O.

The CHAIRMAN regretted to inform the meeting that the qualified Assistant D.M.O. who had been appointed to Kegalle last October left at the end of March and that since then no new Assistant had been appointed, owing to the opening of the new hospital at Undugoda. He thought that it was highly necessary that a new qualified Assistant should be appointed to the Kegalle Hospital, in view of the fact that the new D.M.O. at Undugoda would only slightly relieve the work of the D.M.O. at Kegalle, since most of the estates scheduled to Undugoda were situated on the Bulat-kohupitiya side. The District Medical Officer at Kegalle had to travel to estates situated below Ambepussa on the one side, Polgahawela and Hambukkana on another, and right up to Kadugannawa Pass. This was a very large district to cover for one D.M.O., and some of his visits would take him a complete day, during which time the hospital was left without a qualified doctor. He proposed that the P.C.M.O. be written to that it was highly essential that a new qualified Assistant be appointed as soon as possible. This was seconded by Mr. BAYLEY and carried unanimously.

UNDUGODA HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the D.M.O. had arrived at the New Hospital at Undugoda and he understood that the dispensary would shortly be opened, but that at present no furniture had been provided, he thought the Secretary should write and ask the P.C.M.O. when this hospital would be officially opened for taking in patients. This was agreed to.

ARANAYAKA HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN understood that the site of the Arana-aka Hospital had been fixed and that estimates had been called for from the P.W.D., but that nothing else had been heard. He proposed that the Secretary write and ask the L.G.A., what was being done.—Carried.

DISPENSARY AT AMBEPUSSA.

Mr. LAMB complained that the Dispensary at Nelundeniya had been transferred to Dedagama, and that when drugs were requisitioned for they were not available. The situation of this dispensary was 9 miles away from the estate and very inconvenient, and he proposed that Government be approached whether they could see their way to open a dispensary at Ambepussa.

Mr. TUPPER strongly supported Mr. Lamb. He said that the Sinhalese population in the District was very heavy and difficult to serve, and that a dispensary at Ambepussa would be most beneficial both to the native population and the planting community.

The proposition was put to the meeting and carried.

LOCAL LABOUR FEDERATION.

The meeting retired into Committee on this subject, and after discussing alteration of the rules it was unanimously agreed to abide by the original rule, which had worked very satisfactorily.

RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN stated that inquiry forms with regard to the Kegalle Railway extension had been sent out, few of which had been returned. He would be glad if other members would send in their forms as soon as possible.

On the suggestion of Mr. BARRS, and seconded by Mr. TREVALDWYN, a sub-Committee was elected composed of the following members:—The Chairman, Messrs. Barrs, Franklin, Meedeniya, Nugawela and Keppitipola, with Mr. Trevaldwyn as Secretary.

Read letter from Dolosbage P.A. *re* proposed Railway.

RESOLUTION OF BADULLA P. A.

A resolution of the Badulla P.A. *re* reserves, paths, minor roads and streams was unanimously supported.

TRANSPORT.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Maha Oya Bridge, which he understood should have been finished in April, was still far from completion. He suggested that the District Engineer be written to asking when the bridge would be ready for traffic and the reason for the present delay. This was agreed to.

Mr. THISTLE asked when the crane about which the Railway authorities had been written to last year would be erected at Polgahawela Station.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had received no information on the matter, but that the Secretary would write on the subject to the General Manager.

There being no further business, Mr. BARRS proposed a vote of thanks to the chair, which was seconded by Mr. BAYLEY.

R. R. OAKLEY.

Hon. Secretary.

DOLOSBAE AND YAKDESSA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting of this Association followed by a general meeting was held at Pen-y-lan on May 12th at 9 a.m. Present: Messrs. M. H. Reeves (Chairman), A. J. Stephens, W. J. R. Hamilton, E. G. Box, A. M. MacNeill, R. Senior White, E. M. Blount and E. C. Dawson (Hon. Secretary).

VOTES OF CONDOLENCE.

Before proceeding with the business of the meeting the Chairman said it was his sad duty to refer to the deaths of two old residents of the district, Mr. H. E. Grigg and Mr. A. Dickson. The last named, although perhaps not very well known to some of those present, was one of the pioneer planters in the coffee days. Votes of sympathy with the relatives were passed in silence in the usual way.

The notice calling the meeting was read, and the minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

ROADS.

SEAFORTH-PUNAGALLA BRIDLE PATH.

In reply to an application for a special grant of Rs. 200 towards the repair of this bridle path, in consideration of Mr. W. Russell Scott subscribing a similar amount, a letter was received from the Chairman of the District Road Committee enquiring if this Association intended to apply for the same amount of grant-in-aid as last year and intimating that very little money was available.

Resolved: That the Secretary be directed to write another letter pointing out the urgency of the grant, asking the Committee's sanction, and further to state that unless this road be repaired soon it would be impassable.

LANTERN-HILL-SOMERSET ESTATE CART ROAD.

Read letter from the Hon. Secretary D. & Y. P. A. to THE HON'BLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DEAR SIR,

At an annual general meeting of my Association held at Pen-y-lan on January 13th, 1914, I was directed to communicate the following resolution. "That in view of the reasons put forward by the Government for being unable to take over the entire upkeep of the Lantern-hill-Somerset Estate Cart Road, viz., bad gradients, that this Association do now urgently request Government to take over the road and make deviations where they consider the gradients unsuitable.

In continuation allow me to assure you, in spite of unsuitable gradients this road is being very largely used for motor car and horse traffic. As has been pointed out by my Association in previous correspondence the Lantern-hill-Somerset Cart Road is daily growing more important as another outlet to the railway from an isolated district. There are no difficulties in the way of making the suggested deviation in the road to avoid the unsuitable gradients and I trust, Sir, you will see your way to support this Association's request in advising His Excellency the Governor to take over this road in its entirety.

I am, &c.,
E. C. DAWSON,
Hon. Secretary,
D. Y. P. A.

In reply thereto the following letter was received and read:-
From the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Colombo, to the Hon. Secretary, D. Y. P. A.

SIR,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to state that the estimated cost of improving the above road is so high that it is impossible for the Government to undertake it.

I am, &c.,
For the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

It was decided at the meeting that nothing further could be done at present.

HOSPITALS.

Mr. A. J. STEPHENS complained that he had frequently been unable to get drugs he had ordered from the Gampaha Hospital. He thought it would be an excellent plan for the hospital visitors to make a very strong complaint in the hospital report drawing attention to the limited quantity of drugs on hand.

It was resolved: In the opinion of this Association a full supply of drugs should always be kept in stock for issue to estates when applied for.

Read letter from Mr. M. B. Blount re sale of drugs for cash only. The meeting resolved that nothing could be done in this matter.

NAWALAPITIYA HOSPITAL.

Mr. E. G. Box stated that although the two new wards in the Nawalapitiya hospital had been started over a year ago, they were still very far from completion.

Proposed by Mr. A. J. STEPHENS, seconded by Mr. E. G. Box: "That this Association very much regrets the slowness in building the two new wards in the Nawalapitiya hospital and hopes that owing to the great lack of accommodation Government will make some special effort to complete the work soon."

ARANAYAKA DISPENSARY REPORT.

TO THE HON. SECRETARY,

D. Y. P. A.

DEAR SIR,

I visited the Aranayaka Dispensary this morning at 9 a.m. Dr. Kuman, D. M. O., and the Apothecary were present at the time of my visit.

The new dispensary is about one mile from the old one and consists of the dispensary and Apothecary's quarters, the D. M. O.'s bungalow being situated opposite.

Building and surroundings were clean and in good order as also were the medicines, utensils, &c. There was a good supply of medicines in stock, and the D. M. O. informs me that there is now no trouble getting new supplies.

There are on average 100 patients treated daily.

The new Hospital is, I understood, to be begun at the end of this year. I also visited the proposed site.

The present buildings are not Government property but are only rented.

I am, &c.,
M. B. BLOUNT.

ENQUIRERS INTO SUDDEN DEATHS.

The HON. SECRETARY brought to the notice of members that there was some doubt on the part of Superintendents as to whom to call upon as enquirer into deaths, and there

was some confusion as to which estates each enquirer served in this capacity. Mr. A. E. Popham's appointment had lapsed, as this gentleman had since left the district.

Proposed by Mr. A. J. STEPHENS, seconded by Mr. M. H. REEVES: "That Mr. MacNeill be elected vice Mr. H. E. Popham as enquirer into sudden deaths.

Mr. STEPHENS mentioned that in this very widely-scattered districts another coroner was necessary and proposed Mr. W. Russell Scott be elected for Yaklessa -- Carried.

The Secretary was directed to ask the Government Agent for a list of the names of native enquirers and to circulate members of this Association giving them details.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read resolution from Badulla Planters' Association re reservations on crown lands.

Resolved that this Association do give its support.

PROPOSED KEGALLE RAILWAY EXTENSION

Read letter from the Kegalle Planters' Association giving particulars of a proposed broad gauge junction between Polgahawella and Rambukkana on the main line, thence to Kegalle through Hettamulla direct to Morontota Bridge, the proposed terminus for the time being. A further extension from Morontota Bridge joining the K.V. line near Yatiyantota will be looked for later on. It does not seem likely that the extensions will be sanctioned during the next twelve months, but the Government and the Railway Department are both in favour of same, since it opens a direct coast route for coolies via the K. V. Government are asking particulars of traffic returns over this proposed new route. It would seem that Hettamulla is the nearest station for Aranayaka and in this case the connecting bye road could be put into a condition for carting. It must be mentioned that a direct trace through Kegalle is impracticable, the gradient being too steep. It is therefore proposed to skirt the town half a mile above the Kandy side.

It was resolved that this Association give its hearty support to the Kegalle P. A.'s scheme, and that the Hon. Secretary be directed to forward particulars of any traffic returns desired by that Association.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

Read letter from the Parent Association and the proposed Government regulations re Shot-Hole Borer.

It was resolved to give this Association's support.

IRISH ASSOCIATION.

"UNFORTUNATELY NO IRISHMEN IN THE DISTRICT.

Read letter asking for support in forming an Association of Irishmen in Ceylon.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that there were, unfortunately, no Irishmen in this district.

TELEPHONES.

Mr. R. SENIOR WHITE gave a few particulars of a proposed telephone scheme connecting up this district with Nawalapitiya, which Government would subsidise if five subscribers in Nawalapitiya were forthcoming.

It was resolved:—"That this Association is in favour of the scheme, but before connecting itself it would like to have some idea of the cost."

Mr. R. SENIOR WHITE promised to communicate again with the Secretary in about a fortnight.

LIQUID FUEL.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that lately it had been impossible to get liquid fuel supplies as ordered and carts had returned empty as the installation in Nawalapitiya was out of supplies. When he was last in Nawalapitiya he noticed a large number of empty barrels from outlying districts and very little or no supplies in stock to replenish them. He thought the attention of Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth and Co., should be drawn to the scarcity of liquid fuel, and that this firm be asked to keep an amount in stock sufficient for the requirement of the Nawalapitiya district.

On the motion of Mr. M. H. REEVES, seconded by Mr. W. J. R. HAMILTON, the Secretary was instructed to write to Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth and Co., bringing the urgency of the matter to their notice.

RICE.

Mr. E. G. Box pointed out that the shortage on rice had lately been very considerable and it was difficult to know where to lay the blame. He proposed that the Manager of the C.G.R. be written to asking for facilities to weigh rice at the station of delivery.

It was resolved that the Secretary write to the Manager, C. G. R. to that effect.

Mr. M. H. REEVES: I desire on behalf of this Association, on the approaching departure for Home of our late Chairman Mr. A. J. Stephens, to wish him good luck, "bon voyage," and a speedy return to us fully restored to good health. He has done a good deal for this Association, more than anyone else has done or is likely to do, and we are greatly indebted to Mr. Stephens for the lasting benefits which his untiring energy and perseverance has conferred upon us.

Mr. STEPHENS returned thanks in a short speech and said he hoped he would always be able to do something for Dolosbage.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

E. C. DAWSON,

Hon. Secretary, D. & Y. P. A.

MORAWAK KORALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at the Deniyaya Rest House at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 16th.

Present: Messrs. M. S. Furlong, W. A. Elwell, C. B. Collisson, E. C. Anderson, D. M. Rajapakse, W. A. Anderson (visitor) C. Reid (visitor) and W. M. Wade-Gery (Chairman and Hon. Secretary).

Notice calling the Meeting was read and Minutes of the last General Meeting were confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the A. G. A., Matara, re Matara Agricultural Show.

Read letter and tabled circulars re the Irish Association.

Read letter from Hon. Secretary, Planters' Benevolent Fund, re Investments.

Read letter from A.G.A., Matara, re closing of certain taverns.

Read letter from the Hon. The Colonial Secretary notifying that Messrs. W. A. Anderson and W. M. Wade-Gery have been appointed Hospital Visitors to the Deniyaya Hospital for the year 1914.

Read letter and tabled samples of Rice from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co.

DENIYAYA LIQUOR SHOPS.

The Hon. SECRETARY mentioned that no reply had been received to the last letter written to the A. G. A., Matara, concerning the Liquor Shops of Deniyaya.

Resolved:—"That the A. G. A. be again written to and be again pressed for a reply, and that the matter be not allowed to drop."

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Read resolution from the Badulla P. A. re reservations for paths, minor roads, and streams now being put on Crown Land advertised for sale.

Resolved:—"That this Association support the resolution in question."

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

Read correspondence from the Parent Association re Shot-Hole Borer.

Resolved:—"That the Regulations referred to be approved of."

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The CHAIRMAN said that he understood that arrangements have now been come to which will ensure a transport by motor lorries being given effect to from about the 1st July next.

Several members asked whether any information could be given re details and rates, and on the Chairman replying in the negative it was resolved:—"That the Hon. Secretary do write and ascertain such information."

DISTRICT REST HOUSES.

The leaky condition of the Deniyaya Rest House, and the state of the approach road to the Rest House, were brought to the notice of the Meeting and it was resolved:—"That the D. R. C. be written to and that its attention be drawn to same."

THE HEENAGAMA BRIDGE.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "that the slow progress of the rebuilding of the Heenagama Bridge on the Galle-Akuressa Road be brought to the notice of the Provincial Engineer,

and that information be asked for as to when the new bridge is likely to be finished."

The CHAIRMAN remarked that work had been started some two years ago, but that up to the present the abutments had not even been finished. A temporary bridge had been erected at the commencement, but age and wear had resulted in the same being almost a danger. Practically the whole carting for the District passed over this road, and the contractor complained that all carts had to half unload before crossing and load up again after crossing.

Motorists had also bitterly complained.

The resolution on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

A DISGRACEFUL ROAD.

Mr. W. A. ELWELL brought to the notice of the meeting the condition of the Kotapolla-Urubokka minor road. The portion he wished to call special attention to was that part from the 3rd mile-post onwards. The road was full of ruts, and about a foot deep in loose mud, in fact a quagmire, and being a narrow road it was almost impossible to proceed along the road in a motor-car with any degree of safety. He added that in several places the centre of the road was considerably over a foot higher than the wheel tracks.

The matter was discussed and it was proposed by Mr. W. A. ELWELL and seconded by Mr. M. S. FURLONG that the Hon. Secretary do write to the Chairman of the D. R. C. and point out the bad state of the road, and do ask what sum is voted for the upkeep of this road, and the amount that has been spent on it this year.—Carried.

DANGEROUS CORNERS ON DENIYAYA-HAYES ROAD.

CROSSING PLACES FOR MOTOR LORRIES.

Mr. E. C. ANDERSON proposed, and Mr. M. S. FURLONG seconded:—"That Government be asked to bench all dangerous corners and provide crossing places on the Deniyaya-Hayes road."

Mr. ANDERSON, in bringing forward the resolution, said that the above road was a very narrow one, and had many very nasty and sharp bends, and now that the road was open to motor lorries it was essential to the safety of the public that the corners should be benched and the road provided with crossing places.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. E. C. ANDERSON proposed, and Mr. M. S. FURLONG seconded:—"That the attention of the District Engineer be drawn to the inadequacy of the labour force on the Deniyaya-Hayes road, and to the consequent deterioration of the latter."

Mr. ANDERSON, in bringing forward the resolution, said that he had been informed that at present there were only eight coolies working on the road. This was less than one cooly per mile. The road drains were fully silted up with soil and overgrown with grass, and the banks on the sides of the road overgrown with cheddy. Very little metal, he added, had been broken and heaped for laying down.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

The scheme for linking up by telephones the different states in the District was discussed, and it was decided that an advertisement be inserted in the daily papers calling for a contractor and estimates.

This being all the business, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

W. M. WADE GERY.

Hon. Secretary, M. K. P. A.

MATALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Matala Planters' Association, preceded by a Committee meeting, was held at the Borron Memorial Hall on Saturday, the 16th instant, at 10-30 a.m. Mr. H. S. Cameron presided and there were present Messrs. J. D. Garrick, A. Thorp, Jas Anderson, E. M. Le Feuvre, J. S. Wills, H. L. Anley, M. E. Waddilove, C. Ross Wright, Daniel Joseph, W. J. Westland, J. L. Hayden, John Taylor, J. J. Hutchinson, C. A. Evans, E. M. Biggs, Geo. A. Grieg, Allen B. Thomson, Wm. Innes, Short, P. A. Greig, Arthur Hadden, C. Pern, H. W. Vickers, John S. M. Arnold, C. Ponderson, R. P. Gorton, R. M. Eckert, Gerald Abbott, J. F. W. Brockman (Hon. Secretary), and a few visitors.

The HON. SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting, the minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

A circular from the Irish Association was passed round.

THE MATALE MAGISTRACY.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary in reply to a letter addressed to him by the Association in connection with a complaint by Mr. W. A. Tytler that there was no Police Magistrate at Matala on a certain day when he wanted to take out a warrant against a bolter.

The CHAIRMAN explained that since this occurrence Mr. Fred. Van Rooyen had been appointed Additional Police Magistrate and sat at the Matala Court on days on which the permanent Police Magistrate was away at Panvilla or Teleniya Courts or was called away from town on other duties. He said the arrangement might be considered satisfactory and the matter might be allowed to drop.

Mr. E. M. LE FEUVRE: It would be a pity if Mr. Van Rooyen happens to be your own proctor!

J.P., U.P.M. at ELKADUA.

Mr. E. G. BEILBY having applied to Government for six months' leave from his duties as J.P., U.P.M., Mr. W. Southorn, A.G.A. Matala, wrote asking the Matala P.A. to recommend a substitute, whereupon Mr. A. M. Blair of

Elkadua was approached by the Association and agreed to act. The meeting resolved to recommend his appointment to Government.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following letters:—

Warakamure, February 18th, 1914.

To J. F. W. BROCKMAN, Esq.,

The Hon. Secretary,

Matala Planters' Association.

DEAR MR. BROCKMAN,

Will you kindly thank all the members of the Matala Planters' Association for their very kind expression of sympathy with me in my bereavement.

Yours Sincerely,

LIZZIE BELL.

Hillsbrow, Bitterne, Hants
England, 26th February, 1914.

TO THE HON. SECRETARY,
M. P. A.

DEAR MR. CAMERON,

I write to thank you very much for your kind letter. Will you convey to the Matala Planters' Association my heartfelt thanks for their sympathy in my dreadful loss. I feel their expression of appreciation of my son's services most deeply.

I am, Yours faithfully,

ROSA ISABELLA JENKINS.

ESTATE RICE SUPPLY.

The following letter from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., was read:—

Colombo, April 29th, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Matala Planters' Association.

DEAR SIR,

Under separate cover we have pleasure in sending you twelve samples of No. 2 cooly rice, and beg to advise that we have made arrangements with a rice mill owner to supply us with this quality or any other grade required. We are sending you these samples for the purpose of same being placed before the members of your Association, and shall feel obliged if you will help us in this.

We are in a position to quote best market rates, free of all middleman's profits and Commissions, and as you are no doubt aware, we are the agents and distributors of kerosene oil, liquid fuel, petrol, salt and such articles, and are therefore, fully equipped to add rice to the other food stuffs we already supply.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

DELMEGE, FORSYTH & CO.

The samples were sent round for inspection.

A MEMBER: Has the P.A. any advertising agency?

ANOTHER MEMBER: Do they pay us any commission?

Some questions arose as to the rice being Burma rice or Indian rice. It was also asked if the rice was raw or boiled.

Mr. DANIEL JOSEPH remarked the samples were those of the ordinary Calcutta soolai.

Mr. W. L. WESTLAND: What is the price of the rice? There is no use if they do not give the price!

Rattota Telegraph Office.**LOSS ON WORKING.**

The Postmaster-General had written to the Hon. Secretary requesting that Rs. 288.66 being the half-share of the loss on the working of the telegraphs at the Rattota Post Office in the year 1913, be made good by the guarantors. On the letter being referred to Mr. E. M. LeFeuvre the following correspondence took place with the P.M.G.

Midlands, Rattota, 5th, May, 1914.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
M.P.A.

DEAR SIR,

I write to ask if I may have the following information ready on the 16th instant re loss on working of the Rattota Telegraph Office.

- (1) How is it that a loss of Rs. 288.66 occurred on telegrams in 1913?
- (2) How many telegrams were received at Rattota during 1913?
- (3) How many telegrams were despatched from Rattota in 1913?
- (4) Whether there was any profit in 1912.
- (5) If so, was that profit placed against loss in 1913?

I propose to ask this information at the meeting. Government should give us all details when they ask us to pay a loss.

Yours faithfully,

E. M. LE FEUVRE.

REPLY FROM P.M.G.

The HON. SECRETARY explained that he had lost no time in forwarding this letter to the Postmaster-General for the required information and that he received the following reply:—

Office of the Postmaster-General and Director of Telegraphs, Colombo,

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 6th instant, I have the honour to return herewith Mr. LeFeuvre's letter, and to state that my letter to you dated 28th February last shows the losses on the telegrams at Rattota to have been

In the year 1912.....Rs. 657 43
In the year 1913.....Rs. 577 32

2. The guarantors bear one half of the loss, the other half being borne by Government.

3. In the year 1912, however, there was a profit on the working of the Telegraphs at the Matale Post Office, which is on the same circuit as Rattota, sufficient to cover the guaranteed half share on the loss on the Rattota Office and no call therefore was made on the guarantee. In the year 1913, however, the telegraph at Matale showed a loss and the half share of the loss at Rattota in the year, viz., Rs. 288.66 has consequently to be borne by the guarantors, the Government bearing the loss of a similar sum.

4. The number of telegrams despatched from Rattota in the year 1913 was 1574 and the number received was 1880.

I am, Sir,

F. J. SMITH,

Postmaster-General.

MEMBER WANTS DETAILS OF LOSS.

Mr. GARRICK: It would be useful if we know definitely what Mr. Le Feuvre wants.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: I only want to know details of the Rs. 288.66, I want the working expenses and receipts to show the loss.

The CHAIRMAN: I don't think we can expect Government to give us details of their working expenses.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: If they don't do so how are we to know how this amount of loss is arrived at?

The CHAIRMAN: If you give a guarantee you should make good the loss.

Mr. GARRICK agreed with this opinion and said that Government closed their accounts year by year and he believed accounts were not carried forward.

Mr. EVANS: The Office I think has been in existence for the last 3 years and has there been no loss save for the year in question?

The CHAIRMAN thought the office was working for two years only.

Mr. GARRICK: They have closed accounts for past year and there is no use of asking for them.

Mr. WADDILOVE: There is bound to be a loss on the first year, owing to cost of construction, etc.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: On the other hand there was a profit.

The HON. SECRETARY: There was no profit on Rattota but there was a profit on Matale in 1912, but in 1913 Matale, too, has sustained a loss. So they say.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: Why should we pay in that case?

Mr. EVANS explained that the profit on the working of telegraphs at Matale in 1912 was placed against the loss on Rattota in that year.

Mr. HAYDEN: All you have to do now is to ask for details of the figures.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: Yes! That is what I want.

Mr. ANLEY thought they might not get details.

Mr. EVANS said they put down the loss as Rs. 288.66. There must be a statement of accounts to prove this.

The CHAIRMAN: Do you doubt the figures and want details.

NUMBER OF TELEGRAMS DEALT WITH.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: There were 1,574 telegrams despatched and 1,880 received, well over a total of 3,000 which should realise a good sum.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you any evidence to prove the figures are wrong.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: No.

The CHAIRMAN: Then you must accept them as correct.

A MEMBER: I asked if the guarantee held good for 1 years and there was to be no more guarantee after that.

The CHAIRMAN: The guarantee asked for is for 5 years I do not know if it ceases after that.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: Does that mean Government will close the office after 5 years.

The CHAIRMAN said he could not enlighten them on this point.

Mr. LE FEUVRE said it was a very important point and wished to be enlightened.

The HON. SECRETARY: I will write and find out.

The CHAIRMAN wished to know what further steps the meeting proposed.

Mr. EVANS insisted on getting details of the figures.

Mr. LE FEUVRE agreed and said that bare figures had been given without any details. How did they arrive at them?

Mr. EVANS thereupon proposed "It is proposed that Government be written to asking for a detailed statement of accounts to show how the loss of Rs. 288.66 on Rattota Telegraph is arrived at.

Mr. LE FEUVRE seconded and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. C. ROSS WRIGHT wrote to the Postmaster, Ukuwella, asking whether it was true that letters posted at Ukuwella for Matale were sent to Kandy and then were sent back to Matale. The Postmaster replied "Yes! as there are not many letters to Matale to send a direct bag, the P.M.G.'s order is to send Matale letters via Kandy." Thereupon Mr. C. Ross Wright wrote the following letter to the Matale P.A. under date 9th March, 1914:—

MY DEAR CAMERON,

Did you know that all letters posted at the Ukuwella Post Office for Matale take a trip into Kandy!! before they reach Matale. Just fancy, how very "ridiculous." I hear there is a rumour of moving the Post Office at Ukuwella to that upstairs new house close by. From the station to that house one telegraph post and but "little" wire would be needed to establish the telegraph; all that would be further needed would be the instrument installed. I learn that during last year an average of some 200 telegrams were despatched per month from the station Telegraph Office. What is the guarantee do you know? I really think we should make a good bid for the Telegraph office at the Post Office, Ukuwella.

The present arrangement is very unsatisfactory. One cannot send foreign wires, nor wire money orders whilst the office for the public is opened only at certain hours.

Having collected sufficient statistics as regards the acreage of the estates served by Ukuwella (3358) the number of letters received and despatched, the village (30), &c. Mr. Ross Wright addressed the following letter to the Postmaster-General:—

Kaduwellu Estate,
Ukuwella, March 23rd, 1914.

TO THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
Colombo,

DEAR SIR,

I have the honour to point out that all letters for Matale posted at the Ukuwella Post Office (a distance of 12 minutes' run by rail) are first sent to Kandy. Surely the days for such procedure have passed and you will see your way to have a bag or packet to Matale direct from Ukuwella.

There is a deal of correspondence, etc., when I point out that the estates are in direct communication with merchants, the Kachheri, Courts, etc., at Matale. The native community has also grown and is growing.

Yours faithfully,
C. ROSS WRIGHT.

At this stage Mr. C. ROSS WRIGHT announced that the Postmaster-General had since ordered that a special mail bag be despatched daily from Ukuwella to Matale and he proposed the following resolution:—"A vote of thanks be passed to the Postmaster-

General for putting on a special mail bag direct from Ukuwella to Matale."

This was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

Telegraph Office for Ukuwella.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following letter on the subject:—

Kaduwellu, Ukuwella, March 23rd, 1914.

TO THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
Colombo.

TELEGRAPH.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose a memo on this subject, and to ask if you would be so good as to consider the advisability of establishing the telegraph in Ukuwella Post Office. Hitherto the Railway Department have allowed the public the use of the station office for half an hour before passenger trains only; that is now insufficient. More messages would be sent, I am inclined to think, if the Ukuwella office were made a post and telegraph office. At present no money messages, foreign telegrams can be sent from the station office, decidedly a great inconvenience. I shall be much obliged to you if you will let me know what money guarantee and for how long, is needed, and any further information you may deem necessary to put me in possession of, as I am moving a replution at the next Matale P. A. meeting.

I am Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
C. ROSS WRIGHT.

Mr. C. ROSS WRIGHT then proposed the following resolution:—

"That a telegraph office at Ukuwella Post Office be established instead of the present railway telegraph office.

Mr. H. D. GARRICK: The answer to that will be the Postmaster-General will ask for a guarantee. If you are not prepared to give the guarantee your proposal will simply fall flat. I propose the gentlemen concerned make a guarantee. If Mr. Ross Wright can get a sufficient sum assured it would be useful and it will then be time enough to approach the authorities.

Mr. ROSS WRIGHT: I will certainly do so. I think the last letter from the Postmaster-General deals with the guarantee, which is put down as Rs. 610. Will the Hon. Secretary please read it?

GUARANTEE WANTED.

The HON. SECRETARY then read the following letter received in reply to Mr. Ross Wright's:—

The Ceylon Telegraph and Telephone Department,
Colombo, May 7th, 1914.

C. ROSS WRIGHT, Esq.,
Kaduwellu Ukuwella.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 23rd of March, 1914, addressed to the Postmaster-General regarding the opening of a telegraph office at Ukuwella post office, I am directed by the Postmaster-General to enquire whether you are prepared to give a guarantee for 5 years to make good the deficiency, if any, between Rs. 610 per annum and the value of telegrams handed in at the office of despatch calculated as follows:—

Inland Private and State, 25 cents each.
Inland 1/5 of value.
Foreign 1/25 of value.

I am Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
R. MORRISON,
Supdt. of Traffic.

The Hon. SECRETARY pointed out that this letter contained certain information which Mr. Le Feuvre was asking for as regards Rattota office.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: Yes, cts. 25 is the minimum rate for an inland telegram but it often costs more and never below. I cannot understand how they arrived at a loss on Rattota with over 3,000 telegrams having been dealt with during the year.

"VERY UNFAIR."

Mr. ROSS WRIGHT: If you guarantee the loss who gets the profit? Should there be a profit in the working?

Mr. LE FEUVRE: That is what I want to know.

Mr. EVANS: If there is a profit will the authorities place it to the credit of the guarantors.

The CHAIRMAN: I don't think they will, but in the case of loss you have to pay half the amount.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: It is really very unfair.

The CHAIRMAN: Do you think the Parent Association should be approached with reference to this subject of guarantee as it is a very important matter and affects the whole island.

Mr. GARRICK: I think it will do good.

Mr. LE FEUVRE: If we cannot get the details asked for we will put the matter before the Parent Association.

Mr. A. B. THOMSON said with reference to Ukuwella telegraph office it would be useful to hear Mr. Ross Wright's statistics. He had the figures at his fingers' ends and very convincing material to back up their cause.

The CHAIRMAN did not think there was any good going through the figures and asked how many of those present would remember the figures after the meeting. The chief point was the guarantee of Rs. 610. Figures would not be of interest to many.

Mr. THOMSON: They will be of interest to those interested in Ukuwella.

MR. ROSS WRIGHT'S FIGURES.

The figures referred to showed that Mr. Ross Wright had secured the total number of telegrams dealt with for the two years and nine months, and arrived at the average per year of 2,300 which would realise at the lowest Rs. 575 without taking into consideration Foreign Telegrams and telegraph money orders.

Mr. ROSS WRIGHT inquired, with reference to the guarantee, if the receipts of the Ukuwella office would be taken into consideration.

The CHAIRMAN: The amount realised will be deducted from the Rs. 610 and the guarantors would be liable for half the loss.

The Hon. SECRETARY wished Mr. Ross Wright to continue the correspondence with the P. M. G.

Mr. BIGGS: Why shouldn't all Ukuwella men join in the task and put forward a strong case.

It was agreed that Mr. Ross Wright be entrusted with the work of carrying on correspondence with the P. M. G.

ELKADUA TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Mr. M. E. WADDILOVE said that nothing definite as re-

gards the date of opening this office had been heard. He inquired whether he might write and ask for a reply from the P. M. G. or would the Association do so.

Mr. LE FEUVRE advised going through the Association.

Mr. WADDILOVE said that he replied supplying the P. M. G. with the information asked for, but no reply had yet been received.

It was decided to write and ask the probable date of the Elkadua telegraph office becoming an accomplished fact.

TELEPHONES.

The Hon. SECRETARY said: I wish to take up this subject and to state that the time has now come for Matale to have its own Telephone Scheme. I believe we are one of the few districts without telephones and I really do not see why Matale should be left behind. It is impossible to overrate the usefulness of a good telephone system, and the time and trouble it will save us all. I would propose that a strong Committee be chosen now, one from each of the different parts of the district, and with power to add to their number if necessary, to formulate a working scheme, and to get to work at once, as it will take a long time before we actually get our telephones.

Mr. EVANS seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN suggested proposing a Committee.

Mr. JAMES ANDERSON: Is there no telephone Committee at present?

The CHAIRMAN: We had a telephone Committee, but I am afraid it disappeared when Mr. Storey left the island. The result of the working of that Committee was that it found that a sufficient number of estates did not give their consent to join the scheme so as to justify starting a scheme.

Mr. ANDERSON: What more could the Committee have done?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Brockman has now taken up the matter and thinks sufficient support could be secured to start a scheme.

The Hon. SECRETARY explained that the initial cost in Madulkelle district was some Rs. 280 per head.

Mr. ANLEY: Is it an expensive luxury?

Mr. E. M. BIGGS: When the subject was last before as I wrote to Mr. Storey for some idea as regards the cost. My company is willing to join, but they wish to know the cost. At some other district they were told it would be Rs. 300, but they found it cost four times as much. Most people wished first to know what it is going to cost them before they reply. That is the reason why replies were not received. They wished to know at least the approximate cost.

The Hon. SECRETARY: The more the members the less it would cost.

The following Committee was appointed:—Matale South, Mr. Brockman; Matale North, Mr. A. Thorp; Matale East, Mr. C. A. Evans and Mr. H. S. Wills; Matale West, Mr. Geo. A. Greig; Matale Town, Mr. J. A. M. Bond and Mr. Fred Van Rooyen.

PALLEPOLA-OYA BRIDGE.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter dated the 7th March, from the District Engineer, Matale, to say that the temporary bridge at Pallepola-oya has been opened for traffic.

UKUWELLA-WATTEGAMA ROAD.

A letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary announced the opening of this road to traffic from 1st May, the level crossing at Ukuwella station having been completed.

Mr. GARRICK: Five months for some 80 yards of road!

At the last general meeting Mr. Hayden proposed a strong resolution re death traps on Rattotta road, pointing out to the Provincial Engineer the danger and asking for an assurance of the probable date of completing the work—culverts.

The following letter was read by the Hon. Secretary in his connection:—

From the Provincial Engineer, C.P., to J. F. W. Brockman, Esq., Hon. Secretary, M.P.A.

SIR,

I have the honour to state in reply to your letter of 16th instant that both the culverts under reference are now completed.

(2) With regard to the lighting and protection of the culverts when under repairs the District Engineer informs me that he had the openings well protected with strong fence and 4 lanterns were issued to the watcher and were supposed to have been used.

(3) On the member of your Association making the complaint discovering that the lights were out, a desirable course for him to have adopted would have been to have reported the matter direct to the District Engineer.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. F. TOMALIN, P.E., C.P.

DANGER TO MOTORISTS FROM CATTLE.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following letter on this subject:—

Udupihilla, March 9th, 1914.

H. S. CAMERON, Esq., SYSTON.

SIR,

I beg to address you, as a member of the Matale District Planters' Association and to request that you may be pleased to move at the next meeting the danger to which cyclists, motor car drivers and others driving vehicles of other descriptions, also those who go on foot are subjected to by the negligent manner in which cattle are allowed to graze and carelessly driven along the Matale-Udupihilla-Ukuwella road. Buffaloes are not led by a rope but two or three, and indeed more, are driven by boys who cannot even have control over one.

It was only on the 23rd March that I was gored by a bull on the Matale side of the bridge near the Dharma lines at Udupihilla. I had no way of escape as both the sides east and west are steep, the old road to the east, and Welu's field to the west. My hip joint is dislocated and am laid up since that day.

I am Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

E. D. BARTHOLOMEUSZ

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Bartholomeusz is quite right as regards what he says of the danger. He proposed that the Hon. Secretary do write to the Assistant Govern-

ment Agent so that he may take the necessary steps and find out the owner of the animal.

Mr. J. B. TENNANT: Mr. Bartholomeusz has eminently a case for damages!

The meeting agreed to the proposal.

The meeting went into Committee to consider the subject of correspondence between Mr. R. M. Eckert and Proctor Mr. Sallay and to take the opinion of Mr. Fred. Van Rooyen on the matter.

SHOT-HOLE BORER

Resuming the general meeting considered the proposed regulations re shot-hole borer.

The CHAIRMAN invited expression of the views of the members as to whether they considered the proposed legislation sound.

Mr. GARRICK wished the regulation read.

The HON. SECRETARY then read the draft regulations proposed to be issued under Section 3 of Ordinance Nos. of 1901 with a view to preventing the spread of shot-hole borer in the Island.

Mr. HAYDEN: Am I to understand that if some one took your prunings you are responsible and that you will be prosecuted?

The CHAIRMAN: I don't think so.

Mr. GARRICK: If you don't give permission you will not be held responsible.

Mr. HAYDEN: Some one may take away prunings unwittingly.

Mr. ROSS WRIGHT: The best thing is to burn your prunings.

Mr. GARRICK: Put on watchers!

Mr. HAYDEN wished to know if representatives of the Director of Agriculture would visit and inspect estates.

The CHAIRMAN read Clause No. 2.

Mr. HAYDEN: I take it then they inspect our estates and tell us we have shot-hole borer.

The HON. SECRETARY: No. I rather think you have to notify this fact in writing.

Mr. LE FEUVRE thought the regulations very drastic about tea seed.

The CHAIRMAN explained that leaf for manufacture and tea seed are not included in the regulations and read the clauses referring to this.

Mr. A. THORP proposed that the meeting approve of the regulations.

Mr. GARRICK seconded.—Carried.

BADULLA P.A. RESOLUTION RE RESERVATIONS.

The resolution from the Badulla P. A. regarding reservations was submitted for support.

The CHAIRMAN considered this resolution a good idea. He said one or two gentlemen in the Matale district had suffered and he suggested supporting the resolution and hoped the Parent Association would take the matter up.

This ended the business for the day and the meeting terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the chair.—Matale Cor., 18th May.

UDAPUSSELLAWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at Dickson's Corner Club at 2-30 p.m. on Friday, May 29th, the following members being present:—Messrs. C. J. Owen (Chairman), J. M. Urquhart, A. D. Atkins, E. T. C. Farr, C. J. Patterson, W. A. Gordon, E. V. Long, C. C. Wilson, E. Strickland, C. Boswell, Gordon Windus, H. F. Thompson (visitor), and R. T. Thornton (Hon. Secretary).

The notice convening the meeting being read the minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, before continuing with the business of the meeting it is with much regret that I would refer to the death of Mr. Ferne Edwards. Mr. Edwards' death is a great loss not only to ourselves and the district but also to the planting community in general, a sad instance of a man cut off in his prime. I wish to place on record the deep regret of this Association and to propose that a message of condolence and sympathy be sent to the relations of the late Mr. Ferne Edwards from this Association. The resolution was passed in silence, all members standing.

The CHAIRMAN: We have now to pass the rules drawn up for this Association. We will read them through and will any gentleman who wishes to make any suggestions do so? The Rules were read through and passed.

The CHAIRMAN: I propose that these rules be printed in booklet form and circulated to the members of the Association.—Passed.

ROAD CONNECTION WITH WELIMADA.

Mr. C. C. Wilson's resolution was read as follows:—“That this Association strongly supports the proposal to connect the St. Margarets to Kirklees cart-road with Welimada; and that Badulla and Nuwara Eliya P.A.'s be approached for their support, as this connection would be an alternative route between Badulla and Nuwara Eliya at any time the Wilson's bungalow road should be unusable.

Mr. C. C. WILSON speaking of his resolution said that the effect of connecting this road with Welimada would be that a large area of land would be opened up in tea and a new district would be formed, one of the effects of which would be that the rates on the Rangalla railway would be lowered. Once the connection were effected the St. Margaret's Kirklees road, now a grant-in-aid road, would be taken over by Government and would become a free road so far as upkeep was concerned. In December last all the roads on the Badulla side were blocked, and, had this connection been in existence it would have been an alternative route to Nuwara Eliya.

Mr. FARR seconded and pointed out that the road would bring Badulla Court into a possible distance. At present there was no way of getting to Badulla except on foot.

RESOLUTION STRONGLY OPPOSED.

Mr. ATKINS: I wish to oppose strongly any agitation in favour of the road proposed by Mr. WILSON for two reasons. Firstly because it will be of no use to the District and secondly because the matter of linking up of the Udupussellawa-Kandy road has been before this Association now for many years and has not yet been sanctioned, and we ought to go on agitating for this road and get it before asking for any other, and thereby endangering the obtaining of either. The estates at the far end of the district will be amply served by the St. Margaret's Kirklees road, now under construction, and I fail to see how a further extension to Welimada can be of any use to them. The only reason I can think of for Mr. Wilson's proposing this road is to benefit the estates near Welimada itself, and have they not already a fine road (the main road from Uva to Nuwara Eliya) to say nothing of the Welimada-Bandarawela road? My second reason for opposing the resolution before the meeting is that I think it would be bad policy to agitate for another road while the Udupussellawa-Kandy road, so long agitated for, still remains unsanctioned. Mr. Wilson has, I am given to understand, applied for a large block of land on the Harasbedde patnas, Mahauva estate has also put in an application for a similar block, to say nothing of other minor applications, and these applications are, I believe being considered. Should they be put up and the land bought, we will have practically a string of estates from Liddesdale to Mulhalkelle with no road to serve them. At the present moment owing to rinderpest troubles there are three estates, Mulhalkelle, Wattamulla and Mahauva, employing over a thousand coolies practically isolated. Owing to the shutting of the Kandy road for bullock transport famine rates are prevailing in the bazaars from Wattamulla downwards, and all produce from these estates has to be transported on coolies' heads a distance of seven to nine miles from an elevation of 3,000 to 5,000 feet. In fact everything is disorganised. Should we obtain this road from Ragalla to Mulhalkelle, a road which has had the approval of at least one Government Agent, all fear of isolation for these estates would be at an end, produce would, in the event of rinderpest outbreak, be put on the Udupussellawa line, and we should have a fine road linking up Kandy with Nuwara Eliya via Ragalla. The only objection I can see that Government has had against this road is that it might divert produce from the Udupussellawa railway, but I should think this objection could easily be got over by the imposition of a prohibitive toll on produce, such toll to be taken off at the discretion of the Government Agent in times of stress.

Mr. C. C. WILSON: Mr. Atkins's suppositions as to the reasons for my proposing my resolution are entirely wrong. I do not say this connection will benefit this district primarily, but I do say that it will provide an alternative route from Badulla to Nuwara Eliya and that it will have the effect of bringing a large tract of country, now lying waste, under cultivation. It will benefit the estates now on the St. Margaret's-Kirklees road by relieving them of the payment of upkeep for that road.

MORE FOR BADULLA'S BENEFIT.

The CHAIRMAN: Before putting Mr. Wilson's resolution to the meeting I would like to say a few words. No doubt additional outlets for a district are most desirable, but in this case the outlet is more for Badulla than for Udupussellawa. I consider that the functions of a District Association are to further the interests of its own district, and before adopting the wants of other districts we should consider those of our own. Had this resolution originated in Badulla and had we been asked to support it, I should have urged its being done, but I think we are going outside our province in supporting the road and asking for the support of the Badulla P.A. With regard to the estates at present under the jurisdiction of the Badulla court we have already requested that these be transferred to the judicial district of Nuwara Eliya and the matter is now under the consideration of the authorities. Mr. Atkins in opposing the Kirklees-Welimada road urges the agitation for the cutting of the Ragalla-Mulhalkelle road being renewed. This road was surveyed some years ago and would complete the alternate route from Udupussellawa to Kandy, in case of a breakdown in the railway anywhere between Ragalla and Kandy.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and passed by six votes to one.

Mr. ATKINS gave notice of a resolution re the Ragalla-Mulhalkelle road which he would propose at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter from Mr. Gordon Windus saying he would be ready to act as the other Kandy Representative was read. Mr. Windus was unanimously elected.

A letter from the Nuwara Eliya Planters' Association asking for subscriptions for the purchase of furniture for Baker's Ward was read:—This was strongly supported and a subscription list started.

A letter from Nuwara Eliya P.A. enclosing two resolutions re Kandapola road, and bridge on the road turning up to the Hospital and Brewery was read. Both resolutions were strongly supported.

Mr. W. A. GORDON proposed and Mr. FARR seconded that Mr. Strickland be elected on the General Committee in place of Mr. Nellor, who had left the island.—Carried.

BLACKMAIL AT CROWN LAND SALES.

Mr. C. C. WILSON's resolution was read as follows:—That Government be asked to give some protection to those who deposit money on application for Government land, either by leasing the land to them or by allowing them to purchase it at a reasonable rate to be settled by the Government Agent, and that the Parent Association be asked to take the matter up.

GOVERNMENT TO BE ASKED PROTECTION.

Mr. C. C. WILSON, speaking to his resolution, said that he had brought the matter up in order to try and

obtain some protection from the blackmailers who infest every kachcheri at the time of sales of Government land. He quoted several instances of gentlemen who had deposited money on application for land being approached by these men, who demanded sums of money, in one case Rs. 500, to stop them from bidding the applicants up. He quoted a case of a man in Badulla who had overbid the applicant and was now holding the land he had bought, with a view to selling it to a neighbouring estate at an enhanced price. These blackmailers do not cultivate their land. If they were not paid to stop bidding they bought the land, hoping in future years to make money by the sale of it. There are now, he said, hundreds of acres held by these men, which would be under cultivation if the original applicants had bought them. Another point was that the depositor of application fees loses interest on his money for one, or in some cases, two years before the land is put up; and then it is quite conceivable that he is outbid at the sale by some person who has not the least intention of cultivating. He quoted an instance of a Ratamahatmeya who had been bribed to stop the sale of land.

Mr. ATKINS seconded.

It was proposed to ask the Rural Member in Council to obtain figures of the amount of money now lying idle as application fees.

COMPULSORY CULTIVATION SUGGESTED.

The CHAIRMAN: Might it not be possible to get Government to make a rule that a certain portion of land bought must be opened up in two years? Mr. Wilson's contention seems very reasonable and we would do well to ask the Parent Association to take it up.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

R. T. THORNTON,

Hon. Secretary,

Udupussellawa P.A.

KELANI VALLEY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Kelani Valley planters' Association was held at Taldua Club House on Saturday 30th May. Mr. L. Bayley (Chairman) presided, and the others present included:—Messrs. D. B. Williamson, A. D. Gilbert Burnett, A. Cochrane, A. W. Cantlay, R. E. Gavins, Robinson, W. H. G. Meire, A. C. Cunningham, F. B. Muir, Chas. Bouchier, George T. Edge, H. E. Candy, R. C. W. Taylor, R. W. P. Bell, E. F. Horsfall, A. W. Reid, H. Masson, W. Carver, R. H. E. Edwards, I. Schrader, F. Clark Munro (visitor), Rupert H. Webb (visitor), C. S. Nicol, F. Murray, H. H. Wills, E. W. Ellis, F. Walton (visitor), and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. C. Mitchell.

A telegram from Mr. J. Farley Elford, of Ayr Estate, regretted he could not attend the meeting.

SAMPLES OF RICE.

A letter was read from Messrs. Delmege, Forsythe & Co., submitting samples of cooly rice for inspection by the meeting.

THE DAY OF THE MEETING.

The following letter was read from Mr. R. I. Mackenzie, of Polatagama, Yatiyantota, to the Hon. Secretary:—

I have your notice of the meetings of the K.V.P.A. to be held on the 30th instant and write to protest against so many meetings being held on the one day. The following meetings have been notified:—

1 K.V. Club Committee meeting, 2 K.V. Club General meeting, 3 K. V. Club Steward's meeting, 4 K. V. P. A. Committee meeting, 5 K. V. P. A. general meeting.

Nos. 1 and 2 are first notified. Where is the time to be found in one morning or day to hold all these meetings? I am aware that this same trouble has arisen before and from personal knowledge quite realise and appreciate all the work and also the difficulties which have to be faced, but would point out that the last Saturday of each month, is, or, perhaps I should type, was supposedly "Club Day." Why should not Club Day be kept as "Club Day?" Why make it Club and P.A. day? There are at least 24 days in every or each month of the year in which meetings can be held, so why cram everything into one short morning, or I should type one very long morning lasting till 2 or 2-30 p.m.? If members of the committees of the P.A. or Club are really interested in the various Associations, I am of opinion that they would greatly prefer to go to Talduwa twice in a month for one or, perhaps, two meetings rather than attend many meetings crammed into one very long morning. I would draw your attention to the fact that the Club meetings were first notified.

Mr. WILLIAMSON said speaking for himself and all those in the room, they were very busy men and did not want to be always leaving the estate. They liked to have all the meetings on one day. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Mackenzie might not be a busy man and could come round there very often. (Laughter.) The rest of them could not, and his letter was absolutely wrong.

Mr. COCHRANE said he would support those remarks. They could not all get down 24 days of the month. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN said, the time was limited and they wanted to bring the telephone scheme forward to a more advanced stage. They wanted to be able to put the matter before Government at an early date. That was one of the reasons why they had the P.A. meeting that day. There were only 4 meetings in the year and that meant one every three months.

CRANE AT DEHIOWITA STATION.

The Hon. SECRETARY said Mr. Dunlop had brought up the matter of having a crane at Dehiowita station and he (Mr. Mitchell) would read the latest reply from the General Manager.

The letter confirmed a telegram sent the previous day as follows:—"Cannot provide crane Dehiowite at present,

but will include for consideration next estimates," and went on to say "I am sorry there are no funds available at the moment, but I am including the necessary provision for submission to Government with my draft estimates for 1914-15 and, if approved, the work will be carried out on the earliest possible opportunity in the next financial year, which begins on October 1st next.

The CHAIRMAN said that might be considered quite satisfactory. It was a very urgent want and the Railway people appeared to take it up in the best spirit and intended giving them the crane as soon as possible.

FLOODED ROADS.

The Hon. SECRETARY read a letter from the Secretary of the Automobile Club of Ceylon, enclosing papers sent by the District Engineer at Avisawella. As far as he could see the whole idea was most excellent and should prove of great use to motorists in general in time of flood.

The District Engineer, in his letter, said he forwarded a rough sketch plan of the roads and post offices in the district, shewing the sections of the roads most subject to flood and the names of the overseers in charge. He also enclosed as a suggestion three types of telegrams, copies of which duly filled up, addressed, signed and stamped by the Secretary of the Automobile Association, should be sent to him for issue to the different overseers, together with a money order in favour of each overseer, drawn on his post office, and calculated at the rate of 25 cents per trip to post office to despatch telegrams. It was for the Secretary of the Automobile Association to decide the destination to which telegrams should be sent by each overseer. The District Engineer also enclosed for perusal and suggestions a copy of the instructions he proposed issuing to overseers on receipt of the stamped addressed telegrams.

The instructions to the overseers were that as soon as the water reached the level of any part of the road, he need watch the lowest spot only, i.e., the first to be flooded, and should send off one telegram, worded as follows:—(Type 1) Road flooded Avisawella; water rising. He should continue to send off telegrams either type 1 or type 2, which run as follows: "Road flooded Avisawella; water falling," according to the state of the floods at 8 a.m. each morning and 4 p.m. each afternoon. He should finish up when the floods had subsided in a telegram of type 3: "Road clear, Avisawella."

The CHAIRMAN said that had been very well thought out by the District Engineer and with his co-operation and that of the various overseers it was possible for them to get information as to whether the road was flooded or not. The expense of those wires was being borne by the Automobile Club. He asked the meeting to give its support to that.

The meeting agreed to do that.

THE TELEPHONE SCHEME.

The CHAIRMAN said that some time ago two members of the Association, Messrs. L. H. Cantlay and J. C. Mit-

chell. were deputed to draw up a scheme for district telephones. They consulted Messrs. Hutson & Co., who gave an estimate which the Hon. Secretary would read. A short time ago Mr. Mitchell got into communication with the G.P.O. at Kuala Lumpur and got valuable information about the running of telephones under Government. Since then Mr. Mitchell had approached Mr. A. E. McCloskey, the Superintendent of Telegraphs and Telephone, Colombo, and so far as they could see he looked upon the erection of telephones in the district, provided support was forthcoming, as a matter for consideration. Up to date they had got very substantial support from everybody, including Government servants, hospitals, lawyers, etc., and it was now for the estates to come forward and join in the scheme which could be put through in a very short time at the expense of the Government.

The Hon. SECRETARY then read out Messrs. Kittson's estimates, which showed that exchanges would be erected at Ruanwella, Dehiowita, Yatiyantota and Avisawella. The pool cost ran out at Rs. 950 each and that did not include the cost of poles or upkeep. One scheme simply stood out from the other and that was the one run by Government. They knew exactly what it would cost them and they could estimate for it and there was no huge outlay to be taken into account. Taking Avisawella for instance, the majority of people had consented to the scheme run by Government. There were 20 of them and he did not think they would want to come into an amateur-run district telephone scheme by the P.A. because they did not know what would be the cost of up-keep. He (the Hon. Secretary) had discussed the matter with Mr. McCloskey and so far as he was concerned, provided that sufficient support was given, he thought there would not be much difficulty in seeing the project through. The Hon. Secretary went on to say that he had to ascertain what would be the smallest number of subscribers required to open a sub-exchange at Bulatkohupitiya. It would cost people five miles away from an exchange Rs. 250 a year, and they would be connected on with Avisawella, Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, etc. He did not think agents would object to that.

Mr. CANTLAY asked where would he be connected to.

The Hon. SECRETARY said there would be exchanges at Ruanwella, Yatiyantota, Dehiowita and Avisawella and, if they got a sub-exchange at Bulatkohupitiya, Mr. Cantlay would be connected with that trunk. Calls, of course, would be extra. If there were sufficient estates round Bulatkohupitiya to warrant the opening of a sub-exchange Government would consider it.

Mr. EDWARDS said if it cost double at that price even it was worth it. It was quite time the K. V. had telephones; they were behind the times.

Mr. ELLIS wanted to know whether, as the wire would come from Colombo, they could have an exchange at Waga, as a good many estates round there would come in.

The Hon. SECRETARY said the same remark applied to Waga as to Bulatkohupitiya. When they got a suffi-

cient number of estates round Waga they could have a sub-exchange of their own and then they would be in connection with the trunk wires. He had no doubt when he discussed the matter with Mr. McCloskey privately he would get details as to the number of subscribers required to open an exchange.

Mr. CANDY said in his case he expected he would have to go to Veyangoda. The nearest estate was Chesterford.

The CHAIRMAN supposed Ruanwella would be Mr. Candy's exchange.

Mr. WILLIAMSON thought the second scheme was an excellent one. He was only doubtful about one thing. Take a district like Ruanwella, where they had only 12 or 13 estates. Would Government put in an exchange for that number.

The Hon. SECRETARY said in Ruanwella district there were some 15 estates up to 11 miles and the cost would be Rs. 490 a year for the whole thing. There were some 16 estates in all and he thought all those would come in and support the scheme. For two of them the charge would be Rs. 130, for four Rs. 170 and for three Rs. 210. He had not put down any figures that were exorbitant. He would discuss Mr. Williamson's suggestion with Mr. McCloskey.

The CHAIRMAN said they could rest assured that when the scheme was once started every attention and consideration would be given to all members. No doubt if Government found there were a smaller number of estates in one district and a large number in another, they would work the two together. He would like the Association to give its approval to the scheme being pushed on. They would get more information which would be placed before them by circulars and then they could give in the names of the estates that would go. (Hear, hear.)

The meeting gave its approval.

ALTERATIONS TO RULES.

Some minor alterations to the rules were made, the chief being the increase of subscription from Rs. 17-50 to Rs. 20, of which Rs. 12-50 goes to the Parent Association.

The CHAIRMAN said the addition of Rs. 2-50 would bring them into line with all the other Associations. The K.V. was a growing district and the expenses in connection with the Association were increasing. The Sub-Committee which suggested the increase said it would allow a larger floating fund. (Hear, hear.)

The alterations were passed.

THE CHAPLAIN SCHEME.

The CHAIRMAN said the Sub-Committee went into the subject of a Padre for the district and as far as they could make out to run a better scheme under private subscription was not feasible. The only way it could be run was to run it through estates, so, he thought, that the matter would lapse.

This was all the business

RANGALLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**MOTOR TRACTION IN THE DISTRICT.
PROTECTION OF CARDAMOMS.**

A general meeting of the above Association was held at Ferndale on Tuesday, May 26th, at 1-30 p.m. Present:—Messrs. W. Sinclair, Lindsay-White, A. H. Kerr, A. N. Lushington, R. H. Ellis, H. B. T. Boucher, MacClennan, C. B. Clay, and J. Hall Brown (Chairman and Hon. Secretary). Visitors: Messrs. Beasant and Fraser.

The notice calling the meeting was read. The minutes of the meeting held on February last were confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from Badulla P.A. enclosing resolution on Crown lands advertised for sale. It was pointed out that this matter had been taken up by the Parent Association.

Read letter from the Chairman, District Road Committee, headed "Permission to Build." The CHAIRMAN said that, as Mr. Sinclair was the only member interested, he had referred the letter to him, and as Mr. Sinclair had no objection to the house being built, a reply to that effect had been sent to the Chairman, D. R. C.

Read letter from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., re rice and samples were laid on the table.

Read letter from Mr. Lushington complaining of the casual way in which certificates were being given to coolies by Police Magistrates.

It was pointed out that a similar complaint was now before the Parent Association. Resolved that Mr. Lushington's letter be forwarded to the Parent Association for further action and that Mr. Lushington do obtain copies of the affidavits sworn to by the coolies.

TELEPHONES.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that the Madul-kelle Association were anxious to join the Rangalla Association in having a man resident who would be capable of repairing their lines and instruments.

Resolved:—"That it would be cheaper to employ an outside man whenever it was necessary.

Mr. KERR promised to measure up the present wooden standards with a view to replacing some of them with iron ones at an early date.

MOTOR TRACTION.

Several replies to the advertisement in the local papers asking for a contractor who would put motor lorries on the roads in the district were read, and figures, etc., were gone into.

Resolved:—"That the letters be replied to giving the necessary figures and asking for quotations per ton mile."

DISTRICT ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN asked all members to put their roads in order as soon as possible as last year the applications for the grants came in very late.

ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS.

The CHAIRMAN wished members to realize the seriousness of the disease and informed them that the matter was now being taken up in a very thorough manner, and hoped when the time came for action that they would give all the assistance they could. He told them what had been done up to the present by the Parent Association.

Mr. ELLIS said that he did not think that the disease spread in these districts, as he knew of cases where coolies from Batticaloa had come up to him badly infected, and had recovered practically without treatment.

CARDAMOMS.

Resolved:—"That the Secretary of the P.A. be written to and asked whether the draft of an amendment of Ordinance No. 9 of 1885 published in the *Gazette* of 22nd instant is the Ordinance asked for by cardamom growers, and if so, this Association is of the opinion that it does not meet the case.

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the meeting.

J. HALL BROWN,
Hon. Secretary. Rangalla P.A.

HEWAHETA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of a general meeting of the Hewaheta Planters' Association held at Gonavy Bungalow on June 16th. Present: Messrs. Hickman, Armstrong, Tancock, Popham, Harris, Walton, Trotter (visitor) and W. C. Hawkes, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

RICE.

A long discussion took place re the possibility of raising the price of rice issued to coolies, but it was considered that as a Committee of the Parent Association are at present trying experiments with Burma rice that it would be best to postpone this matter until their decision was known.

Mr. POPHAM withdrew the resolution for the time being.

GONAVY-RAHATUNGODA CART ROAD.

Mr. POPHAM enquired if any definite answer had been received from the D.P.W. as to when the metalling of this road would be started. All correspondence received was read and the contents considered very unsatisfactory.

Major WALTON spoke as to the very dangerous condition of the Kandy-Haragam road near Kandy, and

Mr. POPHAM mentioned that on his last passing along the road no signs of any deviation were visible and all the members using it were unanimous that in the event of another flood the road would give way and their only metalled outlet to Kandy blocked indefinitely. All present considered this matter was most urgent and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to forward the following resolution to the Colonial Secretary as well as the D.P.W.:—Resolution proposed by Mr. J. E. TANCOCK and seconded by Mr. POPHAM:—

"That the D.P.W. be informed that no road metal has yet been broken for the Rahatungoda-Gonavy road, although labour has been promised for this work, and that he be requested to have the work started at once so that the road may be metalled this year as in its present state it will not carry heavy traffic during the N.E. Monsoon, and if there is any trouble on the Haragam road, which is already seriously undermined, the Rahatungoda-Gonavy road would then be the only one available for the Upper Hewaheta and Maturata District."—Carried unanimously.

ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS.

Read letter from the Secretary of the Parent Association *re* experiments to be made to check the spread of this disease. The upper end of the district appears to be fairly free of it but several estates in the middle reported cases. Names were asked for as places for experiments to be made and Loolecondera, Gonavy, Pattigama and Rockwood estates promised to give all assistance possible if desired.

The Hon. Secretary was asked to write to the Maturata Planters Association asking for their support in this matter.

ALTERATION OF PLACE FOR HOLDING MEETINGS.

Mr. Tancock spoke on the subject. The members from the Upper District find it very difficult to get to Pattigama for the meetings and as there is a good proportion of them beyond Gonavy he and those interested wished to have the meetings altered.

Messrs. Popham, Armstrong and Walton spoke on the matter and Mr. Tancock then asked if he might alter his resolution to the following:—

"That in future meetings of the Hewaheta Planters' Association be held at the Loolecondera Factory instead of at Pattigama, the former being more central for both ends of District."

Mr. Hickman seconded and the resolution was carried. Read resolution from Kegalla P.A.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary *re* the appointment of a U.P.M. for the middle of the district. The meeting considered that it is necessary to have a U.P.M. near the hospital, the present holders of office live at either end of the district and at times there is great difficulty in obtaining their services. The Hon. Secretary was directed to write to the Colonial Secretary requesting Government to appoint Mr. G. W. Harris to act.

HANGURANKETA ROAD.

The Hon. Secretary was asked to write to the Director of Public Works asking whether this road has been passed for full motor lorry traffic.

RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The Hon. Secretary was asked to get copies of the Rules of several District Associations and draft a new set for this Association.

A Grave Complaint.

WANTON CRUELTY TO A COW.

Major Walton reported to the meeting that on the previous day a police constable came to Rutland estate and without notifying the Superintendent or the owner proceeded to shoot a cow which was in a healthy condition. He put three bullets into the animal and then went away without killing it. The animal was shot through the neck and behind the ribs, but was still alive on the morning of the meeting. The owner asked permission to kill the beast and sell the carcase but until an Inspector had certified it as being healthy consent to sell was withheld.

As the animal was a mile from the road the Hon. Secretary was requested to write to the A. G.A. and ask whether the Police were authorised to shoot any cattle without informing the owners, and whether it was customary to leave animals alive with bullet wounds in them.

There being no further business the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

WALTER C. HAWKES.

Hon. Secretary, H.P.A.

GALLE DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Preceded by a Committee meeting at 12-30, a general meeting of the Galle District Planters' Association was held in the Hall of the New Oriental Hotel on Saturday, 17th June, at 2 p.m. There were present Mr. M. J. Alderson in the chair, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Bowman, Messrs. Hudson, P. de Vos, C. G. Simmonds, S. H. Titley, A. W. Winter, B. de G. Maurant, F. Griffiths, Whitfield Gavin, Gwinn, Barber, and J. Scott, Honorary Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

ROADS.

Mr. Alderson said that the first subject on the agenda was the Ambalangoda-Elpitiya road, but before dealing with that he had a few remarks to make and would read a copy of a memorial to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary enumerating the wants of the planting districts. The receipt of the memorial had been acknowledged on the 20th of May. Continuing, Mr. Alderson said: "Gentlemen, certain members of your Committee met at Galle, prior to H. E. the Governor's visit last month in order to lay before him the very necessary wants of the Udugama, Elpitiya and Baddegama districts. Unfortunately owing to such short notice His Excellency had filled up his programme and was unable to grant an interview. Speaking for Elpitiya, I have known the District for 18 years and I can honestly say that nothing whatsoever from a planter's point of view for the good of the planting community has been undertaken by Government during that period. Mr. Northway, who is a resident of some 23 years standing, will I think cor-

roborate what I have said. The Elpitiya District has sprung up enormously within the last eight to ten years. There is a large acreage of some fourteen or fifteen thousand acres, owned for cultivating purposes with a constantly increasing Tamil labour force. I ask any gentleman present has Government helped us in any way? The answer is emphatically no. Eighteen years ago the Ambalangoda-Elpitiya road was a useful gravel road and fairly well kept, but now it is one of the worst roads in the island. At certain times of the year parts of this road are under water rendering motor traffic impossible. The bridges too are in sympathy with the roads. Poor miserable erections only capable of carrying a couple of tons weight. I would further mention the Elpitiya-Pitigala Road. This road is a single track only and ruts are to be found there from four to six inches in depth. Our Hon. Secretary unfortunately entered one, came a header, and smashed his motor bike. It is a pity it was not some highly paid official instead. There is one concession that Government has given us and that is to rate the upset price of land at Rs. 100 the acre and which has been sold at Rs. 198 the acre to my knowledge. What has become of this huge sum? We as pioneers of the opening of the district should have every consideration shown us and which would not only benefit ourselves, but those whom we employ. Following, gentlemen, is the communication sent to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

Galle, May 16th, 1914.

SIR,

Owing to the very late hour at which it was found possible to get together a representative number of members to form a deputation and to the fact that His Excellency's short time in Galle was very fully occupied with several prior engagements the Galle District Planters' Association was unfortunately prevented from placing their more pressing requirements before His Excellency for his consideration. I have therefore the honour to request you to be good enough to bring to His Excellency's notice the following list of subjects which it is hoped a deputation would have had the opportunity of discussing with His Excellency, but for the reasons above mentioned. The Association respectfully requests that in the Elpitiya District. (1) Ambalangoda-Elpitiya-Pitigala Road, some 18 miles length, and its bridges be put into such a state as will enable lorries to run under the regulations permitting of the conveyance of total loads of 6 tons.

The Association is under the impression that this road has been taken over by the P.W.D. from the Galle District Road Committee, but no steps have yet been taken to put it in thorough order. The acreage served by this road is 14/16,000 acres and part of this land was sold by Government for Rs. 195 the acre. Thousands of acres have been opened during the past decade but no noticeable improvements have been effected in the road during this period.

(2). That the extent of the acreage under cultivation may be gauged from the fact that upwards of 12,000 Tamil labourers are already employed in this district, for whom it was desired that immediate steps be taken to erect a hospital at Elpitiya as the hospital at Balapitiya is 14 miles distant. In a case that recently occurred it was 36 hours before a labourer suffering from a double compound fracture of the arm was finally attended to though this was partly due to Police detention. (3). That the district generally—its Post Office and Police Station—be connected

by telephone with Ambalangoda Post and Telegraph office and with the main Colombo-Galle telephone line.

That in the Udugama District (4) the Galle-Udugama road, some 25 miles in length, be similarly dealt with as desired in para. 1. This road serves some 15/16,000 acres and it is chiefly in the matter of its bridges that it requires attention as the Association is of opinion that the surface of the road is already suited to the transport by motor of 6 ton loads.

(5). A site for a hospital has already been selected and possibly the building of it has already been sanctioned but nothing further appears to have been done and meantime the subject is of great urgency. (6). The telegraph line that has already been sanctioned be commenced and completed at as early a date as possible. That in the Baddegama district (7) the Galle-Baddegama road, some 12 miles in length, be similarly dealt with as desired in Para 1. (8). The only bridge that is open to vehicular traffic over the Ginganga is that on the main Colombo road at Gintota. A bridge to be constructed at Halpatota is desired to replace the present cumbersome ferry. (9). Telephone connection be established with the main trunk line at Hickaduwa.

(9). The Association would appreciate it, could it be afforded information relating to any projects suggested to the Advisory Committee by the Provincial or District Road Committees as regards roads or works contemplated by the Public Works or Medical Department

I have the honour to be, SIR,

Your Obedient Servant.

(Signed) M. J. ALDERSON,
Chairman, G. D. P. Association.

Mr. NORTHWAY said the chairman had called on him to bear out what he had said re the roads and bridges. There had been absolutely no improvement, the roads being as they were 24 years ago.

Mr. SIMMONDS said that there was no system whatever. Planters were going ahead and getting along but the roads remained the same. He thought that if they kept on worrying the Government and got their friend the *Times of Ceylon* to publish their meeting in extenso and ventilate their grievances they would succeed in getting good engineers to put the roads right. He was not in the Elpitiya district but he thought the system required re-organisation. Rubber crops were doubling but roads and bridges remained the same. They must organise a scheme so that two years hence when crops had further increased their roads would also have improved to suit the traffic.

DON'T BLAME THE ENGINEERS.

Mr. GRIFFITHS said it was all very well to blame supervising officers but what could they do? He heard recently that on a certain road, Rs. 200 was allowed per mile. Now what could a man do with that sum? It was insufficient even to clear out the drains.

Mr. GAVIN said he would like to personally take the responsible officer over the roads. The Elpitiya-Pitigala roads were absolutely dangerous.

Mr. SIMMONDS said he was glad there was a prospect of soon seeing the roads take a six ton load. He had interviewed the Director of Public Works, who had asked him to approach the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Mr. J. SCOTT said he thought the question one of supervision. For the last four months no work had been done

between the 12th and 18th miles. He wanted to erect a factory on Katandola but their bridges would not support the loads of material.

Mr. GAVIN said he had been 2½ years in the district. There was a road from the post office to the dispensary that had not a drain for those 2½ years.

Mr. SCOTT said that in connection with the repair of a bridge some one had come and measured it. The rails were got for it and were still there. They could not be used as they were two feet short.

Mr. WINTER said a similar thing had occurred with Keembiela bridge. Piles were brought and put in most gingerly. No pile driver was even used—in spite of this precaution the piles went down by their own weight and were found several inches too short. The old bridge was put on and of these piles some are there and others have been used for other bridges. At the last meeting he had spoken of a visit the Government Agent paid to Baddegama when he was afraid to cross a bridge. A few days ago the speaker was motoring on the road and overtook a bullock hackery. The hackery made way for him and owing to the heavy jungle growths he could barely see the bull.

The CHAIRMAN said all had heard what was said as to what the Government attitude was. They wanted their loads put in order and hospitals erected.

Mr. GAVIN proposed that the local member of the Committee be invited to inspect the roads.

Mr. SCOTT proposed as amendment. That as they get such little sympathy from the local officers, they do write direct to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Mr. NORTHWAY seconded.—Carried.

“EDANDAS” AT UDUGAMA.

HOW LONG THEY TAKE TO REPLACE.

Mr. SIMMONDS said he was sure all would be delighted to hear that there was some agitation at Udugama in connection with the recent floods. There was a representation made to the Hon. the Government Agent, who replied that Government was prepared to go into the question of repairs to Edandas (log bridges). Government, he stated, would pay half the cost if the estates would contribute the balance. The speaker had replied that he would be only too delighted to contribute in order to get his coolies over to work on his estates. Since then not hearing anything he wrote on the subject to the Government Agent. He got a reply on 20th day stating that the Government Agent hoped to have some of those edandas repaired by the end of the year. (Laughter.)

UDUGAMA HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN said this subject had been many months in the agenda. He read the following correspondence:—

Katandola, May 27th, 1914.

The P.C.M.O. and I.G.H.,
Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour to ask whether you can give me some definite date as to when the Udugama Hospital is likely to be taken in hand by Government. Owing to the large annual increase of labour this district is badly in want of a hospital fitted with requirements.

(Signed) H. SCOTT,
Hon. Secretary, G.D.

THE REPLY.
(No. 1.)

Medical Department,
Ceylon, May 30th, 1914.

The SUPERINTENDENT,
Katandola Estate.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 27th instant and to inform you that a further communication will be made.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) J. LUNN,
for P.C.M.O. and I.G.H.
(No. 2.)

Colombo, June 9th, 1914.

The HON. SECRETARY,
Galle District, P.A.,
Katandola, Elpitiya.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 27th ultimo I have the honour to inform you that I regret I am not able to say when a hospital at Udugama will be taken in hand.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) A. PERRY,
P.C.M.O. and I.G.H.

ELPITIYA HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN said that the stationing of a Medical Officer had been sanctioned and they had heard nothing further.

Mr. SIMMONDS said he thought that if Government could not do what they wanted they must help themselves. They must do what was needed themselves. They paid cess and were entitled to privileges they never got.

Mr. GAVIN again proposed writing to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN then read a letter to Mr. Wigg in answer to a complaint that his cooly had died owing to medical aid being delayed.

Colombo, April 7th, 1914.

T. R. WIGGIN, Esq.,
St Leonard's, Elpitiya.

“DEATH OF COOLY ARMUGAM.”

SIR,

With reference to my letter No. 3115 of the 21st ultimo. I have the honour to inform you that the call referred to in your letter dated 17th idem, was received by the Apothecary during the morning dispensary hours when he has a large number of out-patients to attend to, both estates and others. (2) The number of calls from estates scheduled to Elpitiya is also heavy, and under the circumstances it cannot be expected that the apothecary could attend to all calls expeditiously. Enclosures are returned.

(Signed) G. J. RUTHERFORD,
for P.C.M.O.

Mr. SIMMONDS said he would like to know what claim they had on the M. O. In cases of serious illness if they sent for the D.M.O. and found he was not available what could they do. Apparently the Officer's time is wholly taken up with out-patients. They would like to have a defining line.

It was resolved that serious notice be taken of the matter immediately.

TELEGRAPHS.

The CHAIRMAN then read the following correspondence:—

Katandola, May 27th, 1914.

To the POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
Colombo.

"RE TELEGRAPHS FOR UDUGAMA."

SIR,

I have the honour to enquire when the telegraph from Galle to Nakiadeniya which I understand was estimated for in 1912 is likely to be erected. An early answer would oblige.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. SCOTT,

Hon. Secretary, G. D. P. A.,
Colombo, 2nd June, 1914.

From the P.M.G.

To the HON. SECRETARY, Galle District P.A.
Katandola, Elpitiya.

THE REPLY.

SIR,

In reply to paragraph 1, of your letter of the 27th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the Chief Engineer of Telegraphs hopes to have the telegraph line to Nakiadeniya completed by the 30th September next.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) F. J. SMITH,
P.M.G.

AMBALANGODA TELEGRAPH OR TELEPHONE CONNECTION.

The CHAIRMAN said that once again the matter of the telegraph for Ambalangoda-Elpitiya had appeared on the Agenda of Business. Personally he thought that for the present they would be satisfied with the telephone communication. He asked those present to vote. There were six Elpitiya residents present, and of these five voted for the telephone and only Mr. Chas. Northway, J.P., stood out in favour of the telegraph. On the voting of the majority it was decided to ask for an early installation of the telephone.

GARAGE AT BALAPITIYA.

It will be remembered that at the last meeting there was a good deal of agitation for a garage at the Balapitiya Police Court. One member complained that cars had to be left standing on the public road, while others stated that there was not even a shelter for horses in the event of a shower of rain. It was then resolved to write to the Hon. the Government Agent on the matter as the necessity was most urgent. The answer to that communication was tabled today and much disappointment was expressed at

the decision of Government, whose reply was as follows:—

From the HON. THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, S.P., to the HON. SECRETARY, Galle District P.A., Katandola, Elpitiya.

Galle, April 20th, 1914.

SIR,

Referring to my letter No. 1709, of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to state the matter has been referred to Government and that it is regretted that a garage and stable cannot be provided at Balapitiya Courts.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) R. B. HELTINGS,
G.A., S.P.

ALTERATION OF A RULE.

The CHAIRMAN said that, no doubt, all had read Rule 16, which was to the effect that no member of the Association could take on any notice coolies. This probably was an error, and should read any cooly. It was misleading and he could say it was only a printer's error, as no one, he felt sure, would employ notice coolies.

Mr. SIMMONDS said the rules before them were a new set, which replaced a former series. He was partly interested in drawing up the old rules and the rule in question was simply No. 14, of the Kalutara P.A. rules—with the misprint referred to by the Chairman. Now these had got mixed up. Notice coolies, of course, could not be kept back. Rule 14, as he said, was in force 15 years ago and that was a sort of fore-runner of federation. That rule they copied—but the present one which took its place needed some explanation. He suggested alteration.

Mr. GRIFFITHS said that notice coolies called for no notice from them. No self-respecting person would, he said, employ such coolies.

Mr. SIMMONDS proposed that Rule 16 should read "No cooly" instead of "no notice cooly."

Mr. ALDERSON seconded and Mr. A. W. WINTER supported the motion.

Mr. GAVIN said that when he joined he said he would be bound by no federation rules. Of course, he would not take on his neighbours' coolies. He thought these federation rules only tended to drive the cooly away from the district. Once a cooly went from the district he rarely, if ever, returned.

Mr. SIMMONDS said that, of course, all had different views, and his experience of something like 30 years was that it was fatal to keep changing one's labour forces. With due reference to Mr. Gavin he thought it also fatal to advocate the cooly going the round of a district—especially in the presence of so many young planters. If a cooly was allowed to stray he would go the circle of the district and never pay his kaddy debts. If he ever came back to his old estate it was sure to be with his debt doubled.

Mr. GAVIN said he thought members of Federation were under no responsibility for kaddy debts.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the drafting and reading of the amended rule.

Mr. SIMMONDS seconded.

Mr. GAVIN opposed this. He was of opinion that notice of the change was very necessary.

Mr. TITLEY supported Mr. Gavin, and it was resolved that the amended rule be submitted at the next meeting.

LIQUOR LICENSE FOR ELPITIYA.

UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED.

The CHAIRMAN said the next item was a letter from the Hon. the Government Agent of the Southern Province, forwarding a petition for a liquor license at Elpitiya. The petitioner, said the Chairman, evidently based his right to the license on the belief that he would have European support.

He read the letters and the application:—

FROM THE HON. THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, S. P.,

TO THE HON. SECRETARY, Galle District P.A.

Galle, May 22nd, 1914.

FOREIGN LIQUOR LICENSE.

SIR,

Adverting to your letter dated the 3rd June, 1914, on the above subject, I have the honour to inform you that another application has been made by Mr. P. A. L. Dias of Opata, Elpitiya, for a license for the sale of foreign liquor by bottle and the glass in a Boutique in the garden named Kurundugahawatte in Elpitiya and to inquire if your Association has now any objection to the issue of the license.

(Signed) J. R. WALTER,
for G.A., S.P.

FROM THE HON. SECRETARY, Galle Planters' Association,
TO THE HON. THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, S.P.,

Katandola, May 28th, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 22nd, wrongly addressed to Udugama re liquor license for Elpitiya. Would you kindly allow the matter to stand over till the 13th June, when a Planters' Association meeting is to be held, and the subject brought up for discussion. Can I have a copy of the petition for circulation among the members. I am, etc.,

(Signed) J. SCOTT,
Hon. Secretary, G. D. P. A.

FROM THE HON. THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, S.P.,
TO THE HON. SECRETARY, Galle P.A., Katandola.

Elpitiya, May 19th, 1914.

FOREIGN LIQUOR LICENSE.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 28th instant, I have the honour to forward herewith copy of the petition of Mr. P. A. L. Dias praying for a foreign liquor license at Elpitiya.

I am, Sir, etc.,

(Signed) S. E. HANOX,
for G. A., S. P.

THE PETITION.

Elpitiya, May 19th, 1914.

FROM THE HON. THE GOVERNMENT AGENT,
S.P., Galle.

The humble application of P. Alfred L. Dias of Opata in Elpitiya respectfully sheweth—

The applicant begs to apply for a retail license of foreign liquor to sell in glass and bottles in a boutique standing on the garden called Kurundugaha Deniya in Elpitiya.

The locality is becoming populous and estates being opened now by European gentlemen on all sides that for the supply of the requirements of the increasing "immigrant population" and especially of gentlemen, etc.—a license foreign liquor shop at Elpitiya is felt to be "the only want there," there being several oilman-stores, two butchers' shops and a toddy shop too. The requirement of the above as to the affixing of notices of applicant's intention to apply for the above license has been duly complied with and the applicant believes that the majority of the planting community and the respectable gentlemen of the district would support his application as it would be a great facility for them to have their supplies from a closer place than sending to Colombo and Ambalangoda.

The applicant prays that Your Honour may be pleased under the foregoing to grant him the aforesaid license with as little delay as possible.

For which the applicant as in duty bound will ever pray.

(Signed) P. ALFRED L. DIAS.

It was unanimously decided to oppose the granting of the license and the Secretary was directed to take the necessary steps.

THE GALLE HOSPITAL.

The visitors' report on the Galle Hospital was as follows:—

We visited the Hospital on the 12th June, 1914, at 8 a.m. Dr. Joseph went round with us. There were 130 patients, 80 males and 50 females.

STAFF.—The House Surgeon was away at the time of our visit on relieving duty. We understand that he has to do other duties fairly frequently and we are of opinion that in such an important hospital the House Surgeon should not be taken away for other duties at any time. There are a matron and two nurses. This does not allow any night work to be undertaken, without throwing extra work on the present nurses. Dr. Joseph informed us that he had been promised two more nurses.

KITCHEN.—At the time of our visit, food was being prepared, and everything appeared clean and in good order.

LAVATORIES.—These were clean.

ACCOMMODATION.—With 130 patients there are only 104 beds, of which ten are for paying patients. There is no doubt that fresh land will have to be acquired for increased accommodation and when this is taken in hand we are of opinion that the out-door dispensary should be at the hospital, so as to centralize everything and avoid the necessity of sending patients from one place to the other.

DIARRHOEA WARD.—This should be made fly-proof.

SECOND CLASS PAYING WARD.—There is only one room. We would suggest that it be divided by a partition wall and that the House Surgeon's quarters next to it be turned into a ward, and the House Surgeon be given quarters elsewhere.

WAITING ROOM FOR PATIENTS.—At present this is only a small part of one of the verandahs which is exposed on three sides to sun and rain. We would suggest a proper waiting room to be built.

GENERAL.—The whole hospital appears clean, well kept and in excellent order.

(Signed) A. W. WINTER.

„ S. H. TITLEY.

VOTE OF THANKS.

The meeting terminated at 3-45 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the chair, proposed by Mr. Northway and seconded by Mr. Simmonds.

MASKELIYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Maskeliya Planters' Association was held at the Maskeliya Club on Wednesday, June 17th, at 3-30 p.m., preceded by a Committee Meeting at 2-30 p.m.

Mr. C. B. PRETTEJOHN presided, and the following members were present:—Messrs. C. E. Wedd, T. R. Stannus, R. Maclure, C. S. Agar, C. L. M. Scott, F. O. Sprinks, E. R. Cave Browne, C. Creasy Hood, L. H. Deed, J. P. Chapman, W. H. Brymer, S. Johnston, A. de L. Brainbrige, C. W. Finelli, J. Graham Lang, P. C. Adams, F. J. Reiss, P. H. Unwin, J. B. Cotton, A. P. Jukes, J. D. Finch Noyes, Hew Kennedy, R. G. Rolfe Rogers, A. R. Aitken (visitor), and C. Goolden, Hon. Secretary.

The Hon. SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were then taken and read and duly confirmed.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

INFECTION FROM PLANTS BUT NOT SEEDS.

A letter from the Parent Association was then read. This letter referred to a resolution passed by the Parent Association on the subject of the new Government regulations for preventing the spread of Shot-Hole Borer, and called for an expression of opinion from all District Planters' Associations.

The Regulations referred to, which have been published, were then read.

Mr. S. JOHNSTON enquired whether it had been definitely proved that this pest could not be disseminated by means of tea seed.

Mr. R. MACLURE, representative on the Plant Pests Board, stated that he considered that this Resolution should be strongly supported. There was no doubt that the old Regulations had proved ineffective and that these new ones would undoubtedly prove of service in controlling this pest. Experience had shown that Shot-Hole Borer could be introduced by means of plants, but never by seed, as far as he knew.

It was then unanimously decided to support the resolution.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

The CHAIRMAN: Some handbills have been placed on the table referring to the Irish Association. I have been asked to bring these to your notice and I, therefore, call to your attention the two facts that this Association aims to be strictly non-political and appears to be formed with the

main object of securing a good representative gathering on St. Patrick's Day.

Major STANNUS approved of the Association as long as there were no politics, but strongly disapproved of any idea of entertaining distinguished visitors who might be passing through Ceylon.

Mr. AGAR saw no benefit to be gained by endeavouring to split up a small community.

A MEMBER having observed that it did not appear to have anything to do with the Planters' Association one way or another, the matter was dropped and the business of the meeting proceeded with.

JAVA RUBBER EXHIBITION.

The following letter from the Secretary of the Parent Association was then read:—

The Hon. SECRETARY,

Maskeliya District Planters' Association.

DEAR SIR,

I am directed to inform you that Dr. Lieftinck, Secretary-General of the Rubber Exhibition to be held in Java in September next, has expressed the desire of the Government of Java that a delegate should be sent from the Planters' Association to the exhibition.

There will be a series of lectures translated into English and followed by discussions, and a series of visits to various estates.

In many ways the opportunity for acquiring knowledge of the methods employed on Rubber Plantations outside Ceylon will be unique.

I am directed to enquire whether you are in favour of sending a Planters' Association delegate.

Dr. Lieftinck has asked me at the same time to invite all Rubber Planters to send him exhibits of about 100 lbs. each. If these are addressed to him C/o The Chamber of Commerce they will be transported free to Java and exhibited. Dr. Lieftinck has undertaken to sell the exhibits after the exhibition and to make good the difference if they should fetch less than the exhibitor would have normally got in the market.

This is a generous offer which might well be taken advantage of.

Any exhibits thus sent should not reach the Chamber of Commerce later than the first week in August and should be accompanied by a short note of the age of the plantation and the elevation, etc.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) JOHN STILL.

Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Mr. WEDD proposed that the thanks of the Association should be forwarded to Dr. Lieftinck for his generous offer.

Mr. GOOLDEN seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

The proposal as to whether a Planters' Association Delegate should be sent to Java was then put to the meeting and carried by a small majority.

THE HATTON GOODS-SHED.

The Hon. Secretary then read the following letter which had been received from the General Manager of the Railway in reply to a resolution forwarded to him after the last

meeting. The resolution stated: "That the Association requests the Government to provide sufficient accommodation for goods at Hatton Station, and would point out the unfairness of charging the demurrage on manure and other goods which are left lying in the station yard subject to deterioration from sun and rain; that a request be forwarded soliciting the same privilege with regard to the time allowed for removing manure and other goods from Hatton as is at present allowed to the estates in the Talawakelle District."

The General Manager's letter was as follows:—

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter of March 3rd, 1914, and also of copy of resolution of your District Association under the same date.

2. The question at issue between the Railway and your Association may be summed up as follows:—Whether it is the duty of the Railway Department, having carried traffic to destination station, not only to warehouse it more or less indefinitely pending its removal by consignees or their agents, but also to go to considerable expenses on additional covered accommodation to enable such indefinite warehousing to be carried on. This additional expense is to be incurred for a traffic that admittedly is only at high pressure for a limited period so that for the rest of the year the extra accommodation would not be needed.

3. I am afraid that no one could say this was a business proposition, as the Railway Department cannot reasonably be expected to provide extra warehouse accommodation at large expense on account of difficulties of transport which is a matter for consignees or their agents to deal with. That is to say, I consider it is the duty of the consignees or their agents to provide their own warehouse accommodation under such circumstances. We have completed our contract by bringing the traffic to Hatton and storing it for the regulation time. I would ask you or any member of your Association to send me a sketch of a practicable working scheme for further extension of the Hatton goods shed, namely, one that will not interfere with existing wharf accommodation for direct loading and unloading of heavy materials, etc., and one which will include easy transfer from and to (1) wagons and shed (2) shed and carts. I have been round the yard and cannot find such a site unless in a portion of Hatton town itself.

4. As already stated, I hold that in a place like Hatton where the forwarding agents have their stores in the vicinity of the station, they should take delivery at the proper time and that during these exceptional rushes of traffic, if they have not sufficient storage accommodation, they should provide it and not the railway, which is a carrying concern and not a strong one. When the forwarding agents are really in trouble in connection with rinderpest, I did assist them by some special remission of warehouse rent.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) G. P. GREENE.

General Manager.

THE MATTER DISCUSSED.

The CHAIRMAN: This important matter has been discussed by your Committee, and they advocate that the authorities should be approached with a view to the institution of a sliding scale for these demurrage charges. It is obvious that the further away from the station the estate is the more difficult is it for the contractors to carry out the transport of the estate goods. That being so your Committee suggests that estate within 6 miles of Hatton should be required to remove their goods within 24 hours to save their demurrage, those within 12 miles 48 hours, and so on in proportion.

Mr. MACLURE pointed out that if this scheme was introduced larger sheds would still be required.

Mr. FINCH NOYES, referring to the letter of the General Manager, pointed out that suggestions as to a site for additional buildings had been asked for. He felt quite sure that such a site could be found as he himself had one in his mind and he proposed the appointment of a small sub-Committee to look into the matter.

Mr. JUCKES stated that the sliding scale, although good as far as it went, did not fully meet the question and he wished to support the proposal as to the small sub-Committee.

The CHAIRMAN asked Mr. A. R. Aitken, Manager of the Hatton Bank and Agency Co., if he would be good enough to let the meeting know his views on the matter under discussion.

Mr. AITKEN: I consider that the only satisfactory way to deal with this matter at present—that is until motor traction is permanently and efficiently established—is to persuade Government to refuse the acceptance of goods in Colombo until they know there is storage or shed room for them at their station of destination. At the heavy time of the year the Railway authorities accept tons and tons of manure, etc., for destination of say, Hatton, knowing perfectly well that the goods cannot be dealt with at Hatton and will have to lie about for days or even weeks, their actions being apparently governed by the thought of the additional revenue to be gained by demurrage. The method would enable the goods to be handled quicker and easier as it would prevent the over-stocking of the sheds and yard.

Mr. CREASY HOOD pointed out that as the sheds we've built ten years ago or more it was, at any rate, time they should be enlarged to keep up with the times.

Mr. AITKEN observed that the sheds were quite large enough to accommodate a 24 hours supply of goods.

SHOULD CARTING CONTRACTORS PAY DEMURRAGE?

Mr. WEDD was of opinion that the carting agents or contractors should be the ones to pay the demurrage, if they contracted to cart goods to an estate. It was their business to have a sufficient supply of carts and bulls to get the goods away from the station and up to the estate within a reasonable time. They knew what was coming and should make their own arrangements to deal with an exceptional pressure.

Mr. AITKEN assured the member who had just spoken that he was in error in supposing that the carting contractors knew what was coming. That was just what they did not know. In any case supposing one estate ordered 50 tons of manure which arrived on one day what was to be done then? Not all the carts in the districts could deal with that in one day. He had heard it suggested that estates should make arrangements to order only a small quantity at a time. This would be an extremely difficult matter to arrange and would not be necessary if the despatch of goods from Colombo could be regulated as he had just suggested.

The CHAIRMAN mentioned that motor lorries would be equally useless in dealing with such a situation as Mr. Aitken had just quoted, and it looked as if the sliding scale of demurrage charges and a small Committee for the suggestion of a site for a shed were the only practical means of improving matters.

Mr. JUCKES said that demurrage charges had nothing to do with the shortage of station accommodation except in so far as superintendents of estates naturally objected to paying these charges on goods lying out in the open. The railway authorities appeared, judging by the General Manager's letter, to be quite ready to provide more accommodation if room for it could be found, and that was a matter which should be dealt with by the proposed sub-Committee.

Mr. HEW KENNEDY here suggested that the sliding scale should also be in proportion to the time the goods were left in the station. Thus if Rs. 1.00 per ton were charged for the first two days Rs. 2 should be charged for the next two and so on.

A RESOLUTION.

The CHAIRMAN then put the following resolution before the meeting:—"That the railway authorities be requested to introduce a sliding scale for demurrage charges. That estates within certain distances be allowed a certain time for their goods to remain free of charge. As an illustration estates within six miles to be allowed 24 hours, those between six and twelve 48 hours, and so on, and that after that time had elapsed the demurrage charges should be made proportionate to the time the goods remained. Also that a sub-Committee be appointed to suggest a site for erection of more goods sheds at Hatton.

This resolution was carried unanimously, as also the proposal by Mr. WEDD, seconded by Mr. COTTON, that the sub-Committee should consist of Mr. Juckes, Mr. Noyes, the Chairman and Secretary.

The following letter from the General Manager was then read:—

TO HON. SECRETARY,
Maskeliya Planters' Association.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 28th January for which I am obliged I have the honour to inform you that the question of latrine accommodation for coolies has been the subject of correspondence between the Railway, the Government, and the Local Board, Hatton, and it has been decided that the provision of this latrine accommodation for coolies who are waiting about outside the station prior to booking is a matter to be dealt with by the Local Board at Hatton. I would therefore suggest that you communicate with the Chairman of that Board in connection with the estimates for the next year.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

It was decided that a letter should be sent to the Chairman of the Local Board at Hatton and the matter should be held over pending the reply.

WARLEIGH BRIDGE.

The following letters were then read by the Hon. Secretary:—

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Planters Association, Maskeliya.

SIR,

In connection of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 3rd March, 1914, regarding Warleigh Bridge, I am directed to state that the Provincial Engineer, Central Province, has furnished a report to the Chairman, Provincial Road Committee, Central Province, in whose charge the bridge is, and I am to suggest that you should address the Chairman in the matter.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) for Colonial Secretary.

SIR,

In connection of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 30th ultimo, I have the honour to state that the bridge has been reported on by the District Engineer, who states that it is not actually in an unsafe condition though it is desirable to raise the level of the platform and replace it in line.

2. The Superintendent of Minor Roads has been asked to make an estimate for the necessary repairs and a further reply will be sent on receipt of it.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) C. S. VAUGHAN,
Chairman.

The following resolution on the subject from Mr. Hood was then read and Mr. Hood addressed the meeting as follows:—"I have brought forward this resolution although I was aware of the reply to the previous resolution sent by the Chairman of the District Road Committee, because in spite of the District Engineer's Report I consider the big bridge to be in a most unsafe condition. Has the District Engineer examined the foundations? Mr. Noyes and I were both certain they were undermined only a short time back, and I personally am convinced that the next flood, or at any rate two floods, will carry the whole thing away. The small bridge, mentioned in my resolution, is of great importance, as it is used by all box coolies. The repairing of this bridge would not be a very expensive job, and I propose that the surrounding estates, those in Dickoya included, be asked to immediately subscribe so that the work may be got on with at once.

Mr. WEDD pointed out that the District Engineer had definitely stated that the big bridge was not unsafe, and as he was an expert he presumably knew whether it was or whether it was not.

Mr. NOYES mentioned that the small bridge was only used by horses. Coolies could quite easily get across the drain. If Government rebuilt the bridge they would erect a swing bridge sufficient for foot passengers. Under these circumstances it would be better to call for subscriptions, as Mr. Hood suggested.

The CHAIRMAN here drew attention to the fact that an estimate for the necessary repairs would be shortly forthcoming and that it might be as well to wait for that before proceeding any further.

This was agreed to and the meeting proceeded to discuss the next item on the Agenda.

MEDICAL WANTS.

An extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" of May 15th, 1914, on the subject of the Medical Wants Ordinance was then passed round the table.

Then followed a letter from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., offering to supply cooly rice, samples of which were handed round.

The meeting then concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

KALUTARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Kalutara Planters' Association was held at Tebuwana Club on Saturday there being a large attendance of members. Mr. J. R. Barkley presided and there were also present Messrs. F. J. Ingleby, H. Inglis, Col. R. D. Vizard, Messrs. R. Garnier, F. H. Griffith, T. H. Hadden, W. Pickering, W. Fergusson, F. N. Bridge, R. M. Ash, C. E. A. Dias, F. P. Stevens, K. A. Burn, A. T. S. Boyle, P. H. O. Ash, C. D. Armstrong, L. P. Gapp, A. Macdonald Smith, J. P. Ireson, R. P. Broome, H. A. Nance, J. V. P. Abeywardene, W. N. Jayawardene, W. H. P. Dias and W. S. Niebecker, Hon. Secretary.

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

The CHAIRMAN said before the business began he had a sad duty to perform and he would like them to stand while he read a resolution passing a vote of condolence at the sad loss they had sustained in the district of a young man who recently lost his life, and that the Association record with deep regret the accidental death of Mr. E. L. Nicholson, and the death which also had been brought to his notice of Mr. J. Maclaren which had occurred since the last meeting. They extended their sympathy to the wife of the latter and would send a vote of condolence to her from that Association.

The vote was carried in silence, all the members standing.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AGALAWATTA POST OFFICE.

The following letter was read from the Postmaster-General:—

Colombo, June 10th, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that I have received a suggestion that the Matugama Post Office should be closed, or only retained as a Receiving Office, and a Post Office should be opened at Agalawatta.

I should be glad to be favoured with the views of your Association on the proposal.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) F. J. SMITH,

Postmaster-General.

Mr. FERGUSSON said that on behalf of the district he would like to say that they had nothing better than a receiving office, and it was badly served. They could get no articles, and for any complaints they made they got no redress. They could not even buy stamps except as a favour. They were 15 miles from a telegraph office, and he thought it was a good idea to get a post office if possible. There was a great deal of business for it and he thought they should have a post and telegraph office.

Mr. FERGUSSON then read the following resolution—That this meeting support the suggestion to put a post office at Agalawatta, and that Matugama Post Office revert to a receiving office.

Mr. GRIFFITHS seconded. He said if the construction of a Post Office here interfered with the one at Matugama he would oppose it.

Mr. GARNIER seconded.

Mr. FERGUSSON said the directory placed Mr. Garnier's estate nine miles from Neboda. His own was ten miles from a post office and 15 miles from a telegraph office. He thought he was in a very much worse position.

Mr. GARNIER said he was nine miles away as the crow flew. During flood time it was difficult to get to Neboda at all. It was most essential that there should be a post office at Kalawellawa.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought the post office here was passed. He did not think they could take it away by any chance. The Postmaster-General, he thought, simply suggested the removal of the post office from Matugama to Agalawatta. It did not interfere with the post office at Kalawellawa.

Mr. FERGUSSON said he insisted that the post office at Kalawellawa did not come in at all.

The amendment was put to the meeting and lost by five to three, and Mr. Fergusson's resolution was passed.

RULES REVISED.

The CHAIRMAN said that the rules had been revised at a special meeting held previously and he asked someone to propose their confirmation.

Mr. ASH proposed and Mr. INGLIS seconded this, and it was agreed to.

ROADS.

The following letter was read by the Secretary:—

Talagalla, Homagama, June 9th, 1914.

GENTLEMEN,

I feel in the interests of all concerned, both European and villagers, that attention should be drawn to the disgraceful state of the roads in the vicinity of this estate.

I have been compelled in self-defence to draw up two portions of the Government cart roads and blast out rocks, etc., on roads which have been systematically neglected for years, evidently.

The CHAIRMAN mentioned that motor lorries would be equally useless in dealing with such a situation as Mr. Aitken had just quoted, and it looked as if the sliding scale of demurrage charges and a small Committee for the suggestion of a site for a shed were the only practical means of improving matters.

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GENTLEMEN,

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I have been compelled in self-defence to draw up two portions of the Government cart roads and blast out rocks, etc., on roads which have been systematically neglected for years, evidently.

The road from Colombo which we have to traverse to reach this place is in a most deplorable condition, and though there are signs of an effort to do some repairs at the eleventh hour, seemingly, any thought of trying to push on with the work is out of the question by those who are responsible. I speak of the Colombo-Cotta-Pannipitiya track—it is unworthy of the name of road—on which a few days since a motor-car had its spring smashed through meeting a regular chasm absolutely in the middle of the road (so-called), a spot which is unavoidable.

The Horagala—Horana road is practically impassable, and it is on this road that I had perforce to blast a big rock in the middle of it, which was stopping traffic and would have smashed a trap or motor-car up altogether, and bullock carts could hardly negotiate the place.

The foregoing remarks will be borne out, I am sure, by Mr. Griffiths, of Pimbura estate, who had the uncomfortable experience of driving over both the roads in question with me some week or ten days back, and I think, gentlemen, that you will agree with me in saying that it is high time that the powers that be in the P.W.D. should devise some system whereby most of the money which is voted for low-country roads, &c., should go into the roads themselves and not to the pockets of overseers, headmen, and others.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) WALTER E. BELL.

Colombo, June 4th, 1914.

PANADURA-NAMBAPANA ROAD.

Sir,

Your letter of 23rd May, 1914, has been forwarded to the District Engineer, Panadura, for his attention. He reports that he will attend to the consolidation of the metal and hopes for improvements in July.

I observe that this road has always been a subject of complaint, and its condition is probably due to the trace of the road being bad and there being no proper foundation on the road which renders it unfit to withstand the effect of the increasing traffic of recent years.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) WALTER C. PRICE,

P.E., W.P.

The CHAIRMAN said the matter was one, he was sorry to say, that was causing a great deal of feeling in the district owing to the disgraceful condition of the roads. Everywhere he thought, steps, very strong steps, should be taken to get their roads improved in every possible way. There was no doubt that their roads had got infinitely worse than they were at that time last year. He was sure that all of them felt that a very strong protest should be sent to the authorities, pointing out the great wants of the district, and calling their attention to the very disgraceful condition of the roads. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. C. E. A. DIAS proposed the following resolution—That the Hon. Secretary be authorised to write to the Director of Public Works requesting him to bring the condition of the Panadura-Nambapana road to the notice of the Advisory Board appointed by His Excellency the Governor with a view to improving the foundation of the road by laying a stone foundation, and opening up bigger side drains where necessary, and also to lower the gradient of the hill near the 8th mile post. Speaking in support of his resolution Mr. Dias said that it was within the knowledge of everyone in

that part of the district that the road in question had given trouble for the past four or five years. The authorities seemed to do some work but it was simply patchwork. The road had never been repaired in a substantial manner. Last December a portion of the road was repaired but it was already broken up. It was difficult to bring produce from the estates or to get provisions to them, and the carts demanded higher rates. The road was worst at the 8th mile post. The P.E. had admitted that the road was bad and the authorities should do something to improve it.

Mr. FERGUSON said Mr. Dias and others were lucky in a way to have roads to speak of. He had only got an alleged road. Even by offering high rates he found it difficult to get carters to bring anything to the estate. For seven months in the year they had only the river to use as an alternative, but during the floods they could not take anything up that way. At another time of the year the river was silted up and there was not enough water. The reason that he was speaking of was the Agalawatta-Badureliya road. He said to show how bad it was there was a man who owned an estate there, who was not obliged to go there as he (the speaker) was, and he had not been to the estate for the years (laughter). If something was not done on the river very soon they would not be able to live in the place, and they would not be able to get rice up for their coolies. They could not manufacture.

The CHAIRMAN: You are not talking to Mr. Dias' resolution.

Mr. FERGUSON: May I get it all off sir? (laughter) Continuing he said the most they could do was to get enough rice to feed the coolies until Government did something. He hoped they would not be very long or they would not be able even to feed the coolies.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Ferguson had misunderstood this road would come up later. The resolution proposed by Mr. Dias and seconded by Mr. Pickering was before meeting and he would be glad if those in favour would put up their hands.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE AGALAWATTE-BADURELIYA ROAD.

The CHAIRMAN said with regard to this road he had agreed with Mr. Ferguson. He had been very unfortunate. At the same time he could tell them that this road would be brought up by the Director of Public Works before the Advisory Committee very shortly. The meeting would be held very shortly. Before the matter could be put in the supply bill it had to go before the Board. This was as far as they could go at present. While he was on the subject he would like to mention that there were three roads that were going to be brought before this Advisory Board. These were the Agalawatta-Badureliya road, the Horana road and the Angurutota ferry. These were to be brought before the Advisory Board and it had been suggested by the Committee that they send this resolution up to Kandy, and write to their chairman who was on the board asking him to support them in obtaining these roads.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed a resolution to that effect.

Mr. DIAS: Have you got the Panadura-Nambapana road in the list?

The CHAIRMAN: No, I have not. I cannot tell you whether it has been brought before the D. P. W. or not.

Mr. DIAS: No, it has not.

The CHAIRMAN: We might add that.

Mr. FERGUSSON seconded.

Mr. GAPP said it was practically promised in 1911 and included in the 1912-13 estimates. They threw it out and there was no guarantee they would not do the same again.

The CHAIRMAN: We have no guarantee. The only guarantee we have is that the D. P. W. has it in his estimate this year for the new supply bill. It also has to go under this new scheme before the Advisory Board before anything can be done. Now it could not be taken straight to Government as could be done by the D. P. W.'s predecessor. It has to be through this Advisory Board and as it is only waiting for this meeting.

The HON. SECRETARY: I have heard that there are plans for eight millions and they have only two millions to do it with.

The CHAIRMAN: Eleven, is it not?

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

The HON. SECRETARY said there was one road he had trouble with Government over and this was the Nautia-Alatgalla road. Government were trying to do him. He explained that it was a D. R. C. road and owing to the delay in Government taking it over it got worse and worse. He had to construct the worse part himself and at Rs. 3,600 on it. Government said they would take it and wanted Rs. 2,000 which he had already promised. He thought the Association might support him. He had put down Rs. 3,600 having promised Rs. 2,000.

Mr. FERGUSSON: Why don't you ask for a refund of the 2,000?

The HON. SECRETARY: That is what I have done.

The SECRETARY was accorded support.

Mr. PICKERING referred to the Horana road to Anguru which was practically the main road between the Nu Valley and Kalutara. They had been metalling the road very very slowly, and in parts there was sheer mud not roads but feet deep, so that when motor cars and heavy trucks got stuck four bulls could not get them out. He had a motor car there the other day. There were big lumps of stones there and the car struck with such force against one of these that the starting handle was bent and the wheels sank down to the axle.

The HON. SECRETARY: Is there not a certain amount of rock about there?

Mr. PICKERING: It is all slab rock, and that is what was metalled with.

Mr. GRIFFITHS said it took fifteen strong men and a boy to pull a motor car out of the mud the last time he was there.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the state of the roads is disastrous.

Mr. GRIFFITHS referred to the Deagalla road. The

sides of the road were nine inches higher than the road, with the result that the water never found the drain. Vogan Hill was an absolute water course. The road also was not wide enough. The carts made a deep rut and when they had to pass they had to zig-zag making it much worse. The road badly wanted widening.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we have a very strong case against Government on these roads. I am glad you have all spoken on the subject. It will do good and clear the atmosphere.

THE DISTRICT RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN said that with regard to the District railway the Committee had got this very well in hand. In fact the sub-Committee had collected figures, and when they were ready they hoped to be able to get a very useful railway in Kalutara. He had very little to tell them at present, and he hoped they would bear with them and allow their Committee to go on with the work as hitherto. If there was anything important to tell them they would do so, and he would make it a point to call a special meeting immediately he had the figures and the necessary details ready. He trusted with those words they would allow the matter to rest in the meantime. There had been a rumour going around the district that the railway had been shelved, and was not being looked after. He could assure them that this was not so. As a matter of fact it was all done privately, and he trusted to be able to give them very much better information at the next meeting.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The following letter was read from the Ceylon Motor Transit Co:—

Colombo, June 1914.

DEAR SIR,

We understand that the roads in your district have been proclaimed under the motor regulations as suitable for motor lorry traffic. We shall be glad to consider the question of working a regular lorry service in your district if you will furnish us with the names of the estates likely to support us, their distances from Kalutara railway station and the quantity in tons of goods to and from the estates. We shall also thank you to let us know the prevailing cart rates as in the event of their being very low it will save us the trouble of going into the matter.

(Signed) T. W. COLLETTE,

Managing Proprietor.

The SECRETARY said it had been decided to circularise the estates to find out the prevailing cart rates.

THE POLICE.

STRONG CONDEMNATION.

The SECRETARY read a letter received from various members of the Association regarding the position of the district in regard to police matters and the insufficiency of the force. He gave a list of crimes committed on estates adjacent to Uduwera, which was becoming exceedingly lawless and proposed that a punitive police force be sent here. At Angu-

rantota the following list of crimes had been perpetrated :— February 9th, 1914, bull stolen; February 17th two goats stolen, February 27th attempted theft from lines, April 4th attempted murder, June 2nd, 1913, theft of Rs. 6,000 cash from Neuchatel, July 3rd, 1913, murder case, August 13th theft of roofing from Neuchatel. At Uduwera, April 12th, a bicycle stolen, besides numerous other minor crimes and assaults. March 14th, Nanthupana estate's clerk's fowls and furniture stolen and found in Uduwera headman's house. June 15th, Assistant's bungalow broken into. June 13th, mechanic's house broken into. He moved the following resolution: "That Government be approached that a punitive police force be stationed at Uduwera owing to the amount of crime rife in and around that village which goes unpunished, and that the police force in the estate district be strengthened. They appreciated the efforts of the Assistant Superintendent of Police who was very considerably handicapped by the reduction of the number of constables. The Hon. Secretary also stated that the day previous a murder had been committed not a hundred yards away from where they were sitting.

Mr. BOYLE thought that punitive police might also be stationed at Dodangoda.

The CHAIRMAN said daily they heard of these things. He thought a strong resolution should be proposed to point out that life was endangered. They had that day only just heard of a murder at Tebuwana. Two or three others have lately been reported, and the district is becoming unbearable. Highway robbery at eight o'clock in the morning besides innumerable thefts and burglaries was becoming unbearable.

Mr. POWELL said he would like to know whether any one present could quote an instance within two years where the perpetrators had been brought to book. The thing was getting a farce, what were the police for?

The Hon. SECRETARY: There are only 21 police stationed at Kalutara.

Mr. POWELL said they were insufficient and inefficient.

Mr. GRIFFITHS paid a tribute to the hard working character of the A. S. P. and all the members agreed that the A. S. P. was doing his best.

Mr. GRIFFITHS suggested that they should write to the A. G. A., who had just arrived, about the headmen. He pointed out it was very difficult to get a headman dismissed. There was a case where goods were stolen and subsequently found in the headman's house.

The SECRETARY: And furniture too. He certainly supported the new A. G. A. The new regime certainly could not be worse.

The efforts of the police in connection with rubber thefts were referred to, and while it was felt that they had done good in this direction several of the members remarked that it was only for ten minutes.

PIMBURA HOSPITAL.

A letter read from the D. P. W. pointing out that plans for the new Pimbura Hospital had been prepared and the estimate was being framed. It was stated that the work of construction would be commenced later in the year.

A voice—December 31st (laughter).

Mr. GRIFFITHS stated that the delay was due to the acquisition of the land over which there was some difficulty.

THE S. P. C. A.

Mr. INGLEBY said that he and Mr. Pickering had very little to report on this subject. They had an inspector for some time. The first man left in January. They got a *locum tenens* on March 18th, and he left in May. During that period they had seven cases and convictions, principally in and around Kalutara. The inspector was unable to go far in the district as he had only a broken bicycle which had been returned from Colombo. He (the speaker) was negotiating for another which the Society had agreed to pay for. A new inspector was appointed on June 1st and so far six cases and six convictions had been taken up. The new man appeared to be suitable and very keen on his work.

Mr. Pickering had nothing to add.

TELEPHONES.

Mr. INGLEBY read the following message from the P. M. G.: Estimate annual cost telephone-telegraph service Ingiriya-Bandaragama-Panadura is Rs. 3,000. You and Sabaragamuwa Association would have to guarantee half that amount less revenue annually for five years before I could recommend to Government. He stated that this came before the last general meeting and it was decided to refer the question to Sabaragamuwa Association. A sum of Rs. 1,200 had now been sanctioned for the construction of the trunkline from Kalutara to Neboda provided the duplication of the line was complete by the end of October. Up to date the contractors assured the Committee that the balance of the work would be done as far as the sub-exchanges by the end of October. It was very satisfactory on the part of Government to sanction the money, and if they could get the contractors, Messrs. Hutson & Co., to complete the work, they would soon be able to get into communication with Kalutara. (Hear, hear).

Mr. PICKERING wished to know if there was any suggestion for a telegraph and telephone service for Horana. His letters were not posted in Colombo before 4 o'clock they did not get them for two days.

The CHAIRMAN said the matter was engaging the attention of the Committee. It was decided at the last meeting that it was impossible for the Kalutara Association to subscribe the large amount asked and that the matter should

referred to the Sabaragamuwa Association. It was practically passed and it only waited sanction, having been included in the year's estimates.

Mr. PICKERING proposed that the meeting support the need for a telegraph and telephone office at Horana owing to the rising importance of the district.

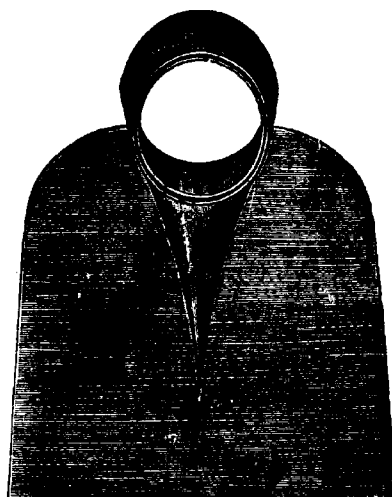
Mr. DIAS seconded and said that there was a large population of wealthy Sinhalese in the district and there was enormous traffic between there and Colombo. In one market at Panadure the firm's business turnover was Rs. 5,000

a day on an average. This gave an idea as to the importance of the place as a business centre. He did not think that the Association should guarantee any sum to Government. Nobody should undertake it but Government, and it was essential that the district should have the facilities asked for.

The motion was then carried.

This concluded the business of the meeting, the proceedings closing with a vote of thanks to the Chairman proposed by Mr. GRIFFITHS, and seconded by Mr. GARNIER.

MAMOTIES.



WALKER, SONS & Co., Ltd.,
COLOMBO & KANDY,
CEYLON.

STATE ECONOMY
ENSURED
STATE EFFICIENCY
SECURED
BY PURCHASING
WALKERS'
STATE SUPPLIES.

MAMOTIES, "ALA" BRAND.

BEST WARRANTED QUALITY.

SIZE.	WEIGHT.	PRICE.
6" x 6½"	1½ lbs	Rs. 8-50 per dozen.
9" x 7"	3½ "	Rs. 10-50 " "
10" x 7"	4½ "	Rs. 11-50 " "
10" x 8"	4½ "	Rs. 13-00 " "

"ALA" BRAND.

PACKED F.O.R. or F.O.B. COLOMBO.

GOODYEAR



The only TYRE made of

**PLANTATION
RUBBER.**

CEYLON AGENTS:—

The Eastern Garage & Motor Car Co.

GALLE FACE GARAGE.



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Vol. II.]

AUGUST, 1914.

[No 6.

Editorial Notes

THE LABOUR QUESTION IN SOUTH INDIA.

WE have purposely refrained from commenting on the above subject until the expiry of the date fixed upon by the South Indian Planters for the initiation of their Labour Department. For some time back our planting neighbours have been feeling the pinch of both foreign and local competition; and the corruption amongst the recruiting maistries has led to a consensus of opinion that something must be done and that quickly. Needless to say, there is the usual divergence of idea as to the nature of that "Something" and how it should be put through.

A scheme put forward and fathered chiefly by the Hon. Mr. E. F. Barber, Planting Member in Council, has for its object the construction of one vast Labour Department, somewhat on the lines of our own Labour Commission. Aided in its early stages by the ready concurrence of Messrs. James Finlay & Company, the idea rapidly gained growth; and its fruition was a meeting of delegates from all parts of Southern India. At this meeting the subject was thrashed out; and the general idea of things was carried with an unanimity which we in Ceylon would hold singular. There was to be a Labour Department for the whole of Southern India. There was to be a large initial Cess; also an annual contribution assessed on the subscribing acreage. Indeed, so much generosity ran hand in hand with an unusual agreement that one would have looked for speedy results, but for the saving clause or rider to the proposition. This clause was as follows:—"That as it is decided that the Labour Department shall be started on 1st July, it shall be considered that the scheme shall not have succeeded if sufficient support is not forthcoming by that date," which is somewhat Irish until supplemented by the further information that a round total of 100,000 acres shall be considered "sufficient support."

The 1st of July is now past, and the subscribing acreage is short of the required total by some 5,000 acres. The enthusiasm of the supporters of the scheme, however, is far from damped. Headed once more by the Hon. Mr. E. F. Barber, and encouraged still yet again by Messrs. James Finlay & Company, they have resolved to let the existing acreage go through in the hope of more to follow; and we may expect to hear shortly of something of the machinery of a Labour Department, which is to be similar, and a rival, to our own Commission.

The chief opponent of the above scheme is Mr. A. H. Mead, who, like the Hon. Mr. E. F. Barber, is an ex-Dickoya planter. Mr. Mead wields a ready pen, and his honesty of intent stares at us from the various letters he has written to *The Planters' Chronicle* (the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I. incorporated). His methods, however, are somewhat his own. Opposed to the idea from its initiation, he did not attend the meeting of delegates, which was a considerable pity. Instead, he waited until the required acreage was more than half subscribed; then pitched in one of his letters, which came as a veritable thunderbolt. The result of his letter was most perceptible. The subscribing acreage which had been advancing at a rough average of 2,500 acres a week came to a sudden standstill. The waverers waited and are still waiting.

Mr. Mead's main contention is that the interests of the various coffee, tea and rubber districts are too conflicting for complete unanimity, and, as a counter proposal, he suggests a separate Labour Department for practically each district. We will not puzzle our readers with the pros and cons of the two schemes. Without wishing to take sides, we would say that, to the mere outsider, Mr. Mead's letters carry a weight that is not apparent in those which replied to them. And we cannot help wondering why the coffee planters of Coorg and Mysore, whose labour troubles appear to be infinitesimal, should put in their thousands of acres to encourage outside recruiting in districts peculiarly their own.

If the South Indian Planters have shown a somewhat improper haste, it was perhaps on the principle of striking

while the iron was hot; and we wish them well out of their difficulties. From the mass of recent correspondence, however, we must quote a passage from a letter from the Hon. Mr. E. F. Barber:—

"Yes, those who are not with us are against us. Ceylon are in this lot and will remain there until we are strongly enough backed with money and acreage to invite them to come to a working arrangement with us."

In the face of that word *invite* our sympathy is possibly, not as whole-hearted as we should like it to be.

RUTHERFORD'S PLANTERS' NOTE BOOK.

(SIXTH EDITION.)

The sixth edition of Rutherford's Planters' Note Book has made its appearance and will soon be on every planter's office table. The new volume has been revised and brought up-to-date and contains a vast quantity of most useful information. The Indexing has been improved and any item to which reference is required can now be found at once. When so many of our leading planters have been engaged in compiling and revising matters connected with the various planting industries criticism would appear to be not only unnecessary but uncalled for. And yet, it is the lot of every prominent man to be criticised and the compilers and revisers of what may now be termed the Planters' Encyclopædia have to suffer along with the rest. It is admitted that cultivation in general, and Manuring in particular, are the most important works on an estate and in future editions the question of manuring might with advantage be more fully dealt with. Under the heading of "Tea" there are two pages devoted to manuring and much more than this could not be written; but under "Coconuts" there appears but one page. To Cocoa manuring seven lines are devoted and in the Rubber section I find no mention of it other than in the estimated cost for the fifth year (page 183) where an item of Rs. 6,600 appears!

The chapter devoted to Ceylon Coconuts has been doubled, and deals more fully with the various branches than was the case in the fifth edition, but surely the "Consuls of the East" deserve even more space and more detail than has even now been allotted to them? The Medical section has been added to and the inclusion of the regulations laid down by the Medical Wants Ordinance should be of great value to superintendents. When one is out for criticising and can only manage to find a few paragraphs that might be added to it is sufficient testimony to the state of perfection to which the original Note Book of 1887 has arrived on its twenty-seventh birthday. Every planter should possess a copy, for it is indispensable; and even the cleverest planters, with the most retentive memories, no doubt have occasion to refer to it.

The price (Rs. 15) is a negligible quantity when one considers that in making out an estimate for, say, a set of cooly lines, a reference to this book may save the estate a hundred or two of rupees.

The thanks of the Planting Community are due to the compilers and revisers of this book, so aptly termed the Planters' *Vade Mecum*.

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya, on July 9th, 1914.

Present:—The Acting Director (Mr. T. Petch), Chairman; the Government Chemist; the Government Entomologist; the Manager, Dry Zone Experiment Station; the Rubber Research Chemist; the Hon'ble the Government Agent, Central Province; the Hon'ble Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot; Messrs. N. G. Campbell; H. D. Garrick; G. C. Bliss; C. E. G. Pandittesekere; Mudaliyar A. E. de S. Rajapaksa; Messrs. A. W. Beven; W. N. Tisdall; A. S. Long Price; H. Inglis; and as visitors, Messrs. W. Coombe; H. Glyn Eccles; W. R. Westland; R. W. Carmichael; P. A. Keiller; H. A. Maclaren; and A. M. Cawer.

A letter was read from Mr. F. H. Layard stating that having taken up residence in Colombo, he was sorry he was compelled to resign from the Committee. The Committee accepted his resignation with regret.

2. Referring to the last Progress Report, Mr. Neill G. Campbell wished to know whether it was quite safe leaving the beetle traps for three months before they were taken up. The Chairman replied that this period was quite safe as the grubs took nearly nine months to develop into beetles.

3. WICKHAM RUBBER.—A preliminary report was submitted of samples of Wickham rubber, consisting of ordinary Wickham block and Wickham smoked crepe. These have been submitted to two manufacturers in the United Kingdom and one in Germany. The reports are very contradictory. One English firm stated that the crepe rubber was 8 per cent. better than the block. The other English firm stated that the block was better than the crepe, while the German firm stated that the crepe was twice as good as the block. Altogether the reports were considered too contradictory to be of much value.

Mr. Coombe asked how old these blocks were, and the Chairman replied that they would have been from 6 to 8 months on arrival in England. Mr. Coombe believed that hard Para improved very much with keeping and that the Brazilian hard-cure when put on the market was probably at least 18 months old, so that the two were hardly comparable.

Mr. Garrick asked if there was any detailed report received from Messrs. Lewis and Peat whose preliminary report was so favourable on the Wickham blocks. The Chairman replied that no report had yet been received but that he would make enquiries.

Mr. Coombe wished to know if any reports had been received of the Agar rubber, and the Chairman replied that there were none that he knew of. Mr. Tisdall said

that there were reports that the new Wickham Smoking Machine was not turning the rubber out in large enough quantities, and the Chairman replied that it had hardly had a chance as yet to show what it could really do, as it was so newly started. There was a new American Machine on the market, but it had not had any practical test as yet. An illustration of this machine would appear in the "Tropical Agriculturist" for July.

4. **HEDYCHUM FIBRE.**—A report from Kew regarding samples of *Hedychium flavescens* fibre sent from Ceylon was submitted. The report stated that the plants did not yield so much paper as *Hedychium coronarium*, only about 60 per cent. of the dry weight of the stem as against 90 per cent. in the latter case, but the paper was strong and very much resembled that obtained from *H. coronarium*. A sample of the paper was circulated.

The Chairman stated that the growth of the plant in Ceylon was very slow and it is scarcely possible to make a success of it. In Brazil where *H. coronarium* is an introduced weed, the growth is very much more rapid and luxuriant. Mr. Bliss asked what soil was favourable for *Hedychium*, and the Chairman replied that wet soil was favourable but that it should not be water-logged.

5. **THE NEGOMBO COCONUT TRIAL GROUND.**—Mudaliyar Rajapaksa handed over his report to the Department of Agriculture for record.

6. **COMPOSITION OF SOILS.**—Mr. Kelway Bamber read a note on the composition of soils in the leguminous plots at Peradeniya, showing the accumulation of nitrogen due to the periodic pruning and mulching of leguminous plants. The results were discussed by Messrs. Coombe and Campbell, and Mr. Bamber promised to add further details with regard to the manurial constituents in the soil.

7. **TEA PRUNING.**—Mr. Bamber read another paper on the effect of leaving a live branch on the tea in pruning time and quoted the yield obtained by the practice. The subject gave rise to considerable discussion in which Messrs. Coombe, Campbell, Garrick and others took part. Some surprise was expressed that leaving of a branch had not influenced the subsequent yield of the bush.

Mr. Huyshe Eliot enquired whether Mr. Bamber thought these figures were conclusive enough to go on. Mr. Bamber replied that he thought not, but they were sufficiently encouraging and interesting to try on a larger scale. This, the Committee thought should be arranged for.

8. **THE FICKENDY SYSTEM OF TAPPING.**—Mr. Huyshe Eliot brought up the question of the Fickendy system of rubber tapping. He thought that if any trees were available on the Experiment Station the experiment should be tried. The Chairman thought there were not sufficient trees of uniform growth to carry out such an experiment. Mr. Bamber thought that if any trees were available that the system should be proved or disproved by this Committee.

The members agreed that the practice of scraping trees was not a new idea and expressed doubt as to the validity of the patent. The general impression was that it was

too early to give any information as to results of the practice.

The meeting ended at 4.30 p.m., some of the members being conducted round the tea by Mr. Bamber, and some by the Manager round the other part of the Station. Members expressed their satisfaction at the good state of cultivation of the whole place and were very pleased at the prospects of a large cocoa crop and the cultivation of the coconut plots.

D. S. CORLETT,
Secretary,

Peradeniya, Committee of Agricultural Experiments.
16th July, 1914.

EXTRACT FROM "CEYLON POLICE GAZETTE."

TUESDAY, JUNE 16th, 1914.

Koravars.

DEPARTMENTAL ORDER No. 162.

In the Madras Presidency there is a wandering tribe of individuals known as "Kuravas" or "Koravars." These people do not work but wander about in gangs committing house-breakings and burglaries.

2. The gang generally consists of 7 to 10 or 20 men and a number of women. The women go round in advance as basket makers, begging, &c., and thus get the necessary local knowledge. The men never commit a burglary or robbery in or near the place at which they are encamped, but travel some thirty miles, commit a burglary, and at once disappear, travelling a considerable distance. House-breaking is almost invariably committed by "boring"; a hole is bored near the lock, a wire is inserted, and the bolt pulled back, sometimes they bore under the doorway. A light is never lit in the house unless unavoidable. "Koravars" take sand with them and throw sand about as they enter a room, by this means they find out where the pots, &c., are on the floor, and all noise is avoided. They particularly take jewellery; they disguise themselves, and are seldom seen or recognized while committing burglary. It will be realized therefore that the methods adopted by this tribe make the detection of offences extremely difficult.

3. The Madras Government and the Madras Police have for many years tried to prevent and detect crimes committed by this tribe. Special education has been tried and efforts made to induce this tribe to give up their thieving habits. All the efforts of the Madras Government have up to date proved of no avail, and the Madras Government have now passed and adopted a Criminal Tribes Act whereby wandering "Koravars" are confined to a settlement. In order to evade the Act "Koravars" may possibly try and come to Ceylon.

4. As stated above "Koravars" are clever in disguising themselves, and may do so to evade legislation in the Salem, Trichinopoly and Ramnad Districts of the Madras Presidency, where "Koravars" are mostly found. Ordinarily, "Koravars" are rough looking, short, and well built; they have high cheek bones, are flat-nosed, and dark. The women

are dark and small. When on the move a gang frequently carry huts about with them. They wear very little clothing, and are expert bird catchers, catching birds with nets.

5. It is in the interests of the employers of labour in Ceylon and of the Police to prevent the wandering "Koravar" coming to Ceylon merely to evade the Criminal Tribes Act in India. It is not the intention of the Police to interfere in any way with an honest man of this caste who has *bona fide* been employed as a labourer in Ceylon. Nor is it intended to interfere with employers of labour who have established an honest "Koravar" connection getting over to Ceylon brothers and sisters or persons associated with honest "Koravars" already in Ceylon. The following arrangement has been arrived at by the Planters' Association, the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, and the Police:—

(a) A wandering "Koravar" with no previous connection with Ceylon, and without any pass or letter guaranteeing that he is coming to Ceylon for the purpose of being employed as a labourer or a kangany, will be called upon before entering Ceylon to produce Rs. 150, failing which he will be declared destitute, and landing will be prohibited under Ordinance No. 12 of 1907.

(b) Superintendents of estates who desire to get over "Koravars," after establishing what appears to them to be an honest "Koravar" connection, are advised to write to the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner, with the co-operation of the Police of Trichinopoly, will examine "Koravars" brought to the Camp under these conditions, and if there is nothing against them, the Ceylon Labour Commissioner will issue a pass to this effect:—

"I certify that———(name, father's name, age, caste, district, &c.) is proceeding to Ceylon for the purpose of being employed as a labourer on——— Estate,——— District."

"Koravars" arriving at Talaimannar with this pass will not be interfered with. The Talaimannar Police will merely take a note of their arrival, and will write to the Superintendent of the estate concerned to verify the fact that the "Koravar" has actually proceeded to and is working on this estate.

(c) "Koravars" who have not passed through the Labour Commission Camp at Trichinopoly, but enter Mandapam Camp direct, will be similarly examined by the Superintendent of the Mandapam Camp and the Indian Police in that Camp. Superintendents of estates who do not get coolies through the Labour Commission are requested to write to the Superintendent of the Mandapam Camp as described in paragraph (b) above. The Superintendent of the Mandapam Camp will act as described in paragraph (b) above, and will issue passes in the same form as described in paragraph (b). The same procedure will be followed by the Talaimannar Police as described in (b).

(d) "Koravars" coming through Tataparai will be examined as at Mandapam.

6. By hearty co-operation between the Superintendents of estates, the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, the Superintendent of Mandapam Camp, the Indian Police, and the

Ceylon Police, it should be possible, while not interfering with the *bona fide* labourer, to prevent wandering gangs of "Koravars" entering Ceylon under the false excuse of coming to Ceylon for the purpose of being employed on an estate. It will be realized that, if such gangs once got a footing in the planting districts and in the Island generally, they will prove exactly the same nuisance in Ceylon as they have proved in India.

7. The Police have instructions to deal at once with any wandering "Koravars" found in Ceylon. Such "Koravars" will be taken up and deported. Should Superintendents of estates and other employers of labour meet or hear of wandering "Koravars," they are requested to hand them over to, or give information to, the nearest Police Station.

8. The following criminal tribes of the Madras Presidency are connected with, or are subdivisions of, the main "Koravars" tribe. The Criminal Tribes Act is being enforced and applied to them by the Madras Government. Individuals of any of these sub-divisions should be treated as "Koravars":—

With complete enumeration of all criminal units of these tribes the total will probably eventually amount to about 3,000.

The SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon,

to the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE.

Kandy, May 29th, 1914.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith for your information copy of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 8th instant.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary.

Resolution Referred to.

Koraver Immigrants.—Resolved: "That the proposal of the Inspector-General of Police meets with this Committee's approval."

Colombo, June 13th, 1914.

Name of Tribe.	Numbers.	Distribution or Habitat.	Range.
Kepmaria	... 182	Trichinopoly, South Arcot, Chingleput, Cuddapah, Mysore, and Orissa	Madras Presidency, Mysore, Cochin and Orissa
		(Registration not yet complete)	
Thottia Naicks	... 123	Cochin & Mysore States and southern districts	Cochin and Mysore States and southern districts
		(Enumeration not yet complete)	
Donga Dasaries	... 281	Nellore, Guntur, Kistna, Godavari, Kurnool, and Hyderabad	Northern and central districts and Hyderabad
Donga Yerukalas	... 462	Northern and central districts and Hyderabad	do.
		(Registration not yet complete)	
Dommaras	... 75	Nellore	Nellore and parts of central districts
Korachas	About 300	Mysore State, North Arcot, ceded and central districts, and Hyderabad	Central districts, Mysore, and Hyderabad
Total	... 1,446	(Enumeration not yet complete)	

NOTICE.**A FORMS.**

I should be glad if Superintendents would advise me immediately they wish any A. form cancelled or in cases where they issue a fresh A. form on information received from the holder that the original A. form has been lost, as on receipt of such advice all my Agents are circularised and payments stopped accordingly. In no case should new A. forms be forwarded direct to kanganyes at their request without notification being made to this Commission of such action, as in the absence of such notification there is nothing to prevent the kangany or cooly who intends to defraud from securing payments on both A. forms and this has been done in one or two instances of late.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

NOTICE.**Tickets on the Railway.**

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kanganyes proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.**A FORMS.**

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September. 1913.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution Referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
Trichinopoly,
14th October, 1913.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January, 1913.

Coast Agency Cess.

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the *Planters' Gazette*."

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee, held on Friday, 8th May, 1914.

RESOLVED:—

"That in future instances of Estates which are already subscribers to the Coast Agency endeavouring to assist non-subscribing estates, the following procedure be adopted:—

First, the Superintendent to be written to,
Second, the Agents or proprietor,

Third, the Estate Agents' Association, and failing satisfaction, the offending Estates' subscription shall be refused in future."

NOTICE.**Tuticorin Forwarding Agency.**

The opening of the new Indo-Ceylon Railway connection via Polgahawella and Dhanushkodi having diverted the greater part of the cooly traffic from the Colombo-Tuticorin route, notice is hereby given to Estates concerned that the Tuticorin Forwarding Agency will be closed on July 8th to be re-opened at Dhanushkodi so soon as pending arrangements are completed of which due notice will be given.

This notice does not include the Colombo Establishment which will be kept open.

NOTICE.**Guntur Agency.**

On page 408 of the July 1914 issue of the *Planting Gazette*, line eleven, Guntakal should read Guntur.

It has since been decided to retain this Agency until the end of 1914.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

COMMISSIONER'S CAMPING.

SALEM 11TH JULY.

On Agency inspection tour, I have visited amongst other places Bangalore and attended the annual meeting of the U.P.A.S.I. at the courteous invitation of the Chairman and members. The most interesting matter on the agenda was the discussion of the labour question and the announcement of the Chairman that the South Indian Labour Commission had started from the 1st of July.

There has been no rain on the Mysore plateau for months and Government officials are reported to be carefully perusing the famine codes in anticipation of bad times. Estate Superintendents who have connections amongst the Canarese will do well to take advantage of existing conditions.

I append the usual Camping reports of the Assistant Commissioners and refer particularly to that of the Assistant Commissioner of the Arcot and Telugu Circle who I detailed for special duty in the Ramnad District with a view to opening up a new Agency somewhere between Madura and Mandapam in order to tap this district which is now so easily accessible from Ceylon. I would draw attention to the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations with regard to authenticated notices, blank forms for which can be supplied from Trichinopoly and which are always kept in stock, printed in English and the vernacular.

RECRUITING FIGURES.

The usual comparative statement appended shows a further decline in coolies recruited as compared with 1913. It will be noted that there is a very heavy falling off in coolies coming from Chingleput in the Arcot Circle. Madura still continues to show an increase. Results from Tinnevely are disappointing.

AGENCIES TO BE CLOSED.

Guntur and Nellore in the Telugu Circle will cease to exist as from the 15th July unless I receive instructions to the contrary. Ammapatam in the Headquarters Circle will be kept open in future merely as a Forwarding Agency, an Agency being opened at Arantangi, the terminus of the Railway in place of Ammapatam. The usual notification will be made of the opening of this new Agency and all A Forms for recruiting in that District should be made out for this new Agency and not for Ammapatam.

ACCOUNTANT'S DEPARTMENT.

When Superintendents desire to stop recruiting temporarily or otherwise, I should be glad if they would specify as to stopping payments under the following headings:—

(1) A form, (2) Tin Ticket, (3) Defaulting department. Where instructions are not received to the contrary, it is usual to forward all coolies holding tin tickets paying way expenses only and it frequently happens that old coolies present themselves for return to estates subsequent to the

Superintendent's instructions to stop payments on A Forms and they are therefore forwarded in the usual course. With regard to defaulting cases, it will, of course, be understood that cases referred to me (prior to instructions from the Superintendent to close his account or to stop further recruiting) which have not reached finality and which are only completed subsequent to those instructions must be debited to the estate concerned.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION MAP.

Referring to *Planting Gazette* of June 14th, Superintendents are informed that the above maps are ready for despatch and they can be supplied to them, varnished, unvarnished, or on rollers according to their requirements.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MADURA AND HEADQUARTERS CIRCLES.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

CANNANORE.

Recruiting prospects will be very good for the next three months, any amount of labour being available. Assam and the Straits are sending a fairly large number of coolies. There is at present only one Kangany recruiting at Cannanore and he will be going to his Estate shortly. Assam has a Depot here and the Straits have numerous recruiters.

ERODE.

Recruiting prospects for the next three months are good though there is great competition at Erode, Assam paying as much as Rs. 40/- to Rs. 45/- per head. The Straits also recruit a good deal of labour from the Coimbatore District.

PALGHAT.

Recruiting Prospects are good, the figures have now increased. A large number of Kanganies who are recruiting around Palghat are professional recruiters, they are not doing any good and have increased the bolting after registration, there are several Matala West men whose A Forms should be cancelled, they are unable to get family coolies as instructed by their Superintendent and are simply loafing about Palghat.

G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant Commissioner.

CHITTOOR AND NORTH ARCOT DISTRICTS.

The new Chittoor District, although it is several years old now, does not seem even yet to be understood by the ordinary villager, and, of course, coolies who have been in Ceylon for some years probably know nothing about it. I have heard a Kangany say that Tiruvannamalai taluk which was handed over by South Arcot to North Arcot was in Chittoor District and I have several times heard the villagers of North Arcot say that their village was in "Sittur Jilla."

Previously there was no Chittoor District but the old North Arcot District was called so by the natives. When this North Arcot District was cut in two the northern part was called Chittoor District and the southern part retained the name of North Arcot District (and each had two or three taluks added to it from the adjacent districts to the north and south respectively). Now the correct native name for the present North Arcot District is "Velur Jilla" since Velure is the Headquarters of the district.

The division between the districts runs from east to west at an average of about five or six miles north of the broad-gauge railway line from Madras. If a cooly persists in saying "Sittur Jilla" therefore, a Superintendent will be fairly safe in putting down North Arcot District instead of Chittoor District if the village is south of the broad-gauge railway line or within a few miles north of it.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Commissioner.

SALEM CIRCLE.

TURAIYUR.

It seems quite possible for coolies in these parts to receive very large advances from the local Mirasdars who are apparently prepared to take the risk of losing this if the coolies go away without their knowledge to Ceylon; though I understand, it is very seldom possible, as they are closely watched and the Mirasdar generally sees that their debts are settled by the Kangany before they go with him. There is no doubt, however, that Kanganies take advantage of the fact that this part of the world is unique in this respect, with regard to large advances, and they exaggerate accordingly to their Superintendents in order to secure a larger pre-advance.

MUSIRI.

The system in this taluk seems to be to pay sums of money to the Mirasdars for single coolies or families working under them. These amounts Kanganies pay in very large sums in some cases; partly, no doubt, as an inducement to the coolies who are generally good ones to come with them but very often to meet the debts they have incurred which may amount to Rs. 40/- or 50/- per head in the case of families. These amounts are advanced by Mirasdars for the purpose of retaining the services of these coolies on their own lands. Since a great many of the Kanganies in this taluk are fairly wealthy men, they will have good connections over here and can induce the genuine agriculturist to emigrate. The country around here is fairly prosperous but the Kanganies are not so well off as around Turaiyur.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner.

CAMPING REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, SALEM CIRCLE, FOR JUNE 1914.

Leaving Salem on the 17th for Trichinopoly District, I stopped a few hours on the way at Namakal to hold some enquiries and interview the Agent.

The 18th I spent in inspecting the Musiri Agency and holding several more enquiries.

On the 19th I went out to the village of Thotiyam and was lucky in finding a Kangany there, whom I interviewed. Unfortunately, however, the village Munsiff, whom I particularly wanted to see regarding some Defaulting Cases, was away, but I had an interview with the Village Munsiff of Chittoor, which is another part of this village. A good number of people appear to have gone to Ceylon from this place, namely, about 150. The population is about 3,500 and I am told that it is possible for men to earn as much as 6 annas to 8 annas a day, and women 6 annas. These high wages are paid for plucking betel leaves, which is largely cultivated in this place. It seems possible for agricultural coolies to receive as much as Rs. 50 advance from the local Mirasdars or landowners, but if they receive this amount from a kangany for the purpose of paying off their debts, they seldom do so, but generally pocket the amount and go with the kangany, leaving their former master a loser both pecuniarily as well as materially. It seems to be the custom in this part of the world, for the local landowners to advance their labourers sums of money to this extent to induce them, if possible, not to emigrate, as a great many are going away from their villages to Penang and Ceylon, but at present, more to the former. From here I went on to Sreenavasanellore and interviewed the Village Munsiff with regard to a Defaulting Case. This person was most genial and seemed very willing to give me any amount of information. Men receive as much as 8 annas a day wages here and women 3 annas and the population is about 1,100. I gather that the system of advances by landowners to their labourers here is in the shape of one week's paddy in advance and not money. The cooly is also paid in kind, that is paddy at the above rates. The people here rather fear kanganies as they say if they work under them they do not treat them properly.

On the 20th I went back to Thotiyam and checked several Defaulting Cases with the Village Munsiff. From here I went to Iythampatty and saw several persons from Ceylon. The lands in most places are at present being ploughed in anticipation of the rain, which is expected very shortly, when the crops will be sown. The people here seem to be much keener on going to Penang and I am afraid have not a very high opinion of Ceylon. One man told me he had worked in Ceylon for seven years but returned owing his kangany Rs. 250. I was much amused by an old and prosperous looking Mohammedan here, who told me he was what was known as a "sixmonth's debtor" his trade apparently being to supply cloths to the villagers at about treble their value and return in six months' time for his money. If when he returned, the debtor refused to pay him, he sat down on the pandal of the debtor's house and made himself a most unwelcome guest by chewing betel nut and tobacco, expectorating and making a thorough nuisance of himself until the householder and debtor paid his debt if only to get rid of him. I gave him a notice to keep him occupied next time he was sitting on somebody's pandal and told him to read it to the householder.

On the 21st I went out to Peramur, which has a population of about 100. Men get 6 annas and women 2½ annas here. About ten have gone to Ceylon and returned again. Their opinion of Ceylon seems to be that nobody ever returns with any money from there. Penang seems to be generally preferred on this account and owing to the high rate of wages said to be paid over there. I was able to interview several kanganyes here, one of whom I could not help laughing at, as I had been sitting a good 20 minutes talking to the people and one or two other kanganyes, when it occurred to me to ask once again if anyone else had ever gone to Ceylon, and the gentleman in question, who had been standing looking at me all this time, was pointed out. He turned out to be a head kangany! From here I went on to Konnasalem. Plantain cultivation is carried on here to some extent and wages are paid to the extent of 6 annas and 2½ annas, the population being about 1,700. None has ever been to Ceylon from this place but about 30 have gone to Penang, the reason being that a rich kangany from Penang stopped here for some time and appears to have cleared out all the available labour.

On the 22nd I again stopped at Iythampatty to interview a kangany. From there I went on to Valavandy. The population of this place is 300 and the wages 2 annas and 3 annas. These are paid either in money or paddy, whichever the labourer likes. About 27 have gone to Ceylon from this place and others to Penang this year, but altogether about 200 have emigrated from this village alone, I was told. One man here informed me that he went to Ceylon five years ago but returned and then went to Penang. The reason being that the wages were higher. This seems to be the general impression in this village, with the result that Penang is preferred to Ceylon. From here I visited Semanathapuram. Wages here are apparently 4 annas and 2 annas, but it was very difficult to get anyone to answer my questions, everyone saying that they did not know, which was most exasperating. One man, evidently the village Wit grinned at everything I said, which caused much mirth from the others, with the result that I could get nothing out of them at all. The next place I stopped at was Ponnusagarapatty, which has a population of about 150. The wages here are 4 annas and 3 annas and about 4 people have gone to Ceylon and I am told they write frequently to the village though they went three years ago. They did not show very much interest in this village, but I think might possibly do so when they know a little more about it. From here I visited Kannanur, which has a population of about 2,000 and wages are 4 annas and 2 annas. About 150 have emigrated from here, about 100 to Ceylon and 50 to Penang. They seem to be very pleased and say that they frequently hear from those who have gone to Ceylon, while others have come back with good reports. Several men said that if there was good water over there, they would be glad to go and needless to say I hastened to assure them that the water in Ceylon was excellent. One old man informed me that he had worked for 20 years in Ceylon and showed me his son with great pride, who was born over

there. He said he had had a very good time and had been treated very well. From here I visited Kottampatty, the population of which is about 200. Men earn 3 annas and women 2 annas. About 50 have gone to Ceylon and communicate regularly with their relations. The people here tell me that they prefer Ceylon to any other country as the water over there is very good. One man who had been to Ceylon as well as another country, said that he liked Ceylon best and thoroughly enjoyed himself over there.

The 23rd I spent in thoroughly inspecting the Thuriyur Agency and interviewing several kanganyes.

On the 24th I went out on the Attur Road from Thuriyur and stopped at a village called Sikathumbur. The population of this place is about 4,500 and I am told that it is estimated that about 500 have gone to Ceylon from this place and communicate periodically with their village relations. The local wages are 4 annas and 3 annas. The labourers are paid in paddy, but if they wish they can receive cash instead, and advances are paid up to Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 a head if they are well trusted servants. I was fortunate in finding several kanganyes here and receiving the attention of a large crowd of villagers headed by the Village Munsiff, from whom I was able to get the information I required and check a number of Defaulting Cases. From here I visited Vengadasalapuram, the population of which is 2,400 and the wages are the same as the last place. About 200 persons are said to have emigrated to Ceylon from here and they write and send money occasionally to their relations. There is a pleasing impression of Ceylon in this village as they say the wages paid are higher than it is possible for them to earn in their own village. After this I stopped at a place called Uppiliyapuram, with a population of about 5,000. Men get from 4 annas to 6 annas and women 4 annas a day. I interviewed both the Village Munsiff and the Kurnam of this place and the latter told me that quite a hundred of the inhabitants go to Ceylon every year from here, but they do not write very frequently. Coolies are no doubt available here, judging from the keenness shown to obtain the Printed Notices. I interviewed another kangany and checked a number of Defaulting Cases. After which I went on to Sogapuram, the population of this place is about 3,500 and the local wages are 4 annas and 3 annas. About 60 people are said to have gone to Ceylon and about 40 to Penang from this place and at times money is received from those who have gone to Ceylon. A few coolies can be had here but the opinion is that Penang is a better place as the wages paid are higher and it is accordingly preferred. I also checked a number of Defaulting Cases with the Village Munsiff who was very obliging in giving information. In the afternoon I received a wire to report myself at Head Office on the next day which I accordingly did, advertising freely on the way between Thuriyur and Trichinopoly. I still get the fact that Penang pays higher wages and is preferred to Ceylon, rubbed into me in almost every village, though in several instances, which I have quoted in detail, Ceylon is preferred on account of the good reports received from those who have returned from there. The labourer in these parts is in

most places paid an appreciably large wage, either where there is some particular form of cultivation such as Plantain or betel, or during the harvest seasons and when there is a demand for labour, so that it will be understood that the temptation of a substantial wage is necessary to get them to go to another place especially when it is a question of keen rivalry. I have gone closely into the question of advances and the extensive enquiries I have made have resulted in convincing me that it is a fact that the emigrant cooly of these parts can receive an advance of between Rs. 20 and Rs. 30 from his master, but I am not so inclined to believe that this is in every case paid by the kangany, who are too fond of indenting on their superintendents for large lump sums such as Rs. 500 or Rs. 700 to pay the debts of a small gang of coolies, whose total insolvency would, more than probably, not amount to more than Rs. 250 or perhaps Rs. 300 at the outside though this even would not be paid by the kangany in a large number of cases.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,

Assistant Commissioner.

CAMPING REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF ARCOT AND TELUGU CIRCLES FOR JUNE, 1914.

On the 14th June, I left for Katpadi by road, having sent my heavy saman by rail, and advertised in the villages on the way. From Katpadi I went by rail to Trichinopoly where I arrived on the morning of the 15th instant, and went to Head Office to receive instructions concerning a camp in the Ramnad District.

The following morning I went by rail to Paramakudi where I arrived in the afternoon and settled down to attend to correspondence which had accumulated. In the Travellers' Bungalow I met Mr. Percival, the District Superintendent of Police, who gave me a good deal of information about the district and the roads, which he said were very bad and in most parts almost non-existent in wet weather or after any rain. As regards most of the roads I was over, however, I afterwards found that this condemnation was decidedly undeserved. For most of their distance these roads were very good and for the rest they might easily be beaten in vileness by many of the roads that were kept to tackle in the north. These, however, were the few roads that were kept in repair; the others merely exist as an indication of the direction. In some places paddy cultivation had been carried right through them and only the trees remained to show where the road had been.

The next day I went to Ilayangudi over an absolutely vile road, but the three villages that I visited on this road were almost entirely Mahomedan. There seemed, however, to be a good few Hindus of the ordinary cooly type using the road and I did some advertising. I remained at the Sivaganga Lessees' Bungalow near Ilayangudi for about three-quarters of an hour and then returned by the same

road as there was no other. Most of this road is in the Sivaganga Zemindari. I do not think recruiting would be very good.

The 18th was shandy day both at Paramakudi and at Manamadurai. I went to Sivaganga that day via Manamadurai by road and distributed sheaves of notices at both shandies. To Manamadurai the road is quite good and 20 to 23 miles an hour is an easy pace most of the way. From Manamadurai to Sivaganga there is a service of motor-buses and the road is kept in excellent order. Along both these roads coolies had gone to Ceylon from at least every third village, I should think. Ceylon was well known everywhere—as Kalumbu—and the mere advertising of it is hardly necessary. Nevertheless my notices were always read with interest and the reading was generally accompanied by nods of agreement. Occasionally a few of the facts were new to them and even when they were not their statement in print was valued. I came across several people who said they had relations on estates in Ceylon, but the name of the estate was nearly always a difficulty. One man in the village of Sandanur made the extraordinary statement that one had to plank down Rs. 50 advance at the Agency before one could go to Ceylon. All his friends ridiculed the idea and I was very much puzzled at first. He mentioned the instance of his own son, but could not tell me what estate he was on. I think it is likely that the son has been told, on the estate by his Kangany that he has a debt of Rs. 50 and fails to understand why. It is probably another instance of Kangany blackguardism.

These roads are almost entirely within the Sivaganga Zemindari which is leased by two Europeans who naturally strenuously discourage recruiting, all the more so at present because the last two or three years have been bad and great numbers of their rayats have left for Burma or Ceylon. Of course, people have gone to Ceylon from these parts for generations and where there are connections with Ceylon they will continue to go, but during the next few years while the lease lasts the recruiter will meet with concessions on every hand to induce the rayats to stay and he will not be joyously welcomed by the officials in the Estate.

At Sivaganga on the 19th, I called on Mr. Miller, the Manager of the Zemindari for the lessees, but met only young Mr. Miller, his son. Mr. Miller was very hospitable and pleased to see me, but warned me that all recruiting was being actively discouraged. He said that far too many of the people had already gone away to Ceylon or Burma and it was almost impossible to get coolies for the work on tanks and roads. As much as 8 and even 10 annas was being paid for this work.

I also went back along the Manamadurai road for some distance hoping to find a cooly who I had heard was in the village of Kandhani. I did not see the cooly, but I had a long talk with the villagers. At least a dozen people have gone to Ceylon from this village quite recently. There has been no proper rain for two seasons and, therefore, very poor crops. The Lessees were giving large concessions in many villages and everybody was looking forward to the next season and hoping it would be a good one.

From Sivaganga I went back to Paramakudi by a different road through Ilayangudi. This road I also found quite good for the first 15 miles, but after that it began to get bad and worse and worse as it went on. On this road there are small villages of about 150 people about every two or three miles for most of the way. From only two of these villages, however, I heard that people had gone to Ceylon. But Ceylon was well known and emigration there taken quite as a matter of course—a very different attitude to what one finds in the north. I should think, as a matter of fact, that at some time or other people have gone to Ceylon from almost every village along all these roads, though the villagers' memories, when questioned, refuse to stretch back more than a year or two. They are quite willing to emigrate if occasion should arise and they know all about the new railway route.

In Paramakudi I was told that the road to Ramnad was very bad and on the morning of the 22nd, therefore, I went there by cart and did not arrive until after four o'clock in the afternoon. Most of my saman was, of course, sent by train. The road I found good enough at both ends but in the middle it was very rough with stretches of deep sand. I rather regretted not motoring, but I should have found no use for the machine in Ramnad as there are apparently no roads whatever.

The villages along this road again were mostly very small but numerous enough. The villagers knew Ceylon well and a good number of them had gone both there and to Rangoon. There are one or two Mahomedan villages, but I should think that recruiting along this route would be very successful. I met one youth travelling along the road who said he had a cousin who was tea-maker on an up-country estate.

There is no Travellers' Bungalow at Ramnad, but Mr. Percival, the District Superintendent of Police, had kindly written to the Rajah and given me a letter to him. I also wrote to say that I was coming to Ramnad and asking for permission to occupy the bungalow that the Rajah keeps furnished for travellers. I found that the bungalow had been lately completely refurnished and done up for the Governor's visit and was exceedingly comfortable.

On my explaining my business to the Rajah he at once asked in what way he could help me and was very obliging in several ways. He recommended to me the vicinity of Kamudi for recruiting and this was afterwards confirmed both by the Rev. A. D. Limbrick of the S. P. G. in Ramnad and by Mr. Powers of the American Mission on the spot. I had been intending to aim at Abiramam, on the same road south from either Parthibanur road or Manamadurai stations, but I was told that was a village of Mahomedans.

From Ramnad I went out literally over the fields to several villages in a jutka. There were indications in most places that roads had once existed. What remained were bullock-cart tracks which were very rough and even dangerous going for a jutka and which kept to the old route or did not according to which was easiest. From all these villages coolies had gone to Ceylon and in one, Perungulam, I found a retired Head Kangany who was evidently a very

influential man in the place and had built himself a large terraced brick house. He said his father and his grandfather before him had been head Kangany on the same estate. There was, however, nobody from the estate or from Ceylon in the village at the time. He told me of another village some miles away where he thought coolies from Ceylon would be found. I have unfortunately forgotten to note this name as I could not find time to go there by the slow jutka method, having made an engagement with Mr. Limbrick which I did not want to miss.

Mr. Limbrick has been in Ramnad for nearly quarter of a century and gave me a lot of information about that part of the district. He said that in some parts the villages had been almost entirely denuded of men, so many had gone either to Rangoon or to Ceylon. The price of rice had nearly trebled itself during the last 20 years and there had been bad seasons for the last two or three. Wages for coolies on Railway and other construction works was as much as 12 annas per day. I found the notices criticised in the town because the wages offered in Ceylon were not enough. Out in the country villages, however, wages were only between 3 and 4 annas per day for men and about 2½ to 3 annas for women. In some of the villages near Ramnad brickmaking is an industry and the people are not entirely dependent on the crops for work. This apparently does not prevent them from emigrating however.

I was able to give Mrs. Limbrick the English name and address of an estate on which a relation of one of her servants was working. The servant had been anxious for some time to communicate with those in Ceylon but was able to give only the "Tamil" name of the estate. I explained that in all cases of this sort the Ceylon Labour Commission was always ready to help and even anxious that applications should be unhesitatingly made for news of friends in Ceylon.

From Ramnad I went by train to Manamadurai station in order to visit Kamudi from there by road. This journey I also did by cart since I had been told that the road was too bad for motoring. Again, however, I should like to have risked motoring though the last 10 or 11 miles were bad and the last 6 very bad. On this road there were 10 villages but only in two of them was it acknowledged the coolies had left for Ceylon, Karasakulam and Kadeiyangaram. Except Abiramam and Kamudi itself they are small places.

In Kamudi the Travellers' Bungalow is next to the mission station. I landed there late at night and the following morning the Missionary, Mr. Powers, strolled over and introduced himself to me. The sphere of this American Mission is very extensive in this part of the country and stretches right away to Srivilliputur and up to Periyar ghat. The S.P.G. on the other hand is confined to a square of square east of this with two of its sides on the two coastal lines. Mr. Powers was very interested in what I had told him and as soon as he saw the notices he asked me to give him 60 or 70 of them so that he could paste them in the schoolroom and send them out to the villages by the teachers. I gave him nearly all I had left—somewhat of

150. He said his men would enjoy reading out and explaining the notices to the villagers. He said that around Kamudi there should be good recruiting and he also mentioned Aruppukkottai, Kadaladi and Mudukulatur as good vicinities. I should recommend any planter visiting this neighbourhood to call on the missionary. He has a lot of ready and willing information and would be able to give good advice and even help perhaps.

I returned to Manamadurai during the night on the 27th, arriving there shortly after nine o'clock the next morning. Anyone wishing to do this journey would save some 5 miles by getting down at Parthitanur Road station if the train he is travelling by stops there. The Mail trains do not stop.

From Manamadurai I returned direct to Chittoor where I arrived at 1-30 p.m. the following day.

In Ramnad District the chief castes are the Vellalah, Thevar, Maravar, Nadar and Shanar, besides, of course, the outcaste—Pallar, Pareiyar and Sakkiliyar. Of the Vellalah castes most will go to Ceylon but some will not. I do not think many of the Thevar caste go, though I have seen them in Ceylon, but all the other castes go readily enough as coolies. The Shanar like to call themselves Nadar and I am not sure whether there is really a separate Nada caste. They are the old toddy drawing caste and are said to be a mere offshoot from the outcast Panchamas, but they have for several generations been going over in large numbers to Christianity. They have been going in strongly for education and have lately come forward rapidly in influence and wealth as a community—being keen merchants and even financiers. They were demanding entrance into the caste temples to worship (and even calling themselves Vellalahs, as may have been noticed by some planters since the 1909 registration) but this was denied them. They will not worship the Panchama gods and are therefore beginning to build temples for themselves. They are ashamed of their old calling, which, however, some of them, of course, still pursue and are humble enough not to be ashamed of. These would probably be content to call themselves Shanar, but it may have been noticed in checkrolls how many of this caste insist upon having the caste title of Nadan added to their names (but they do not seem often to claim the honorary "Nadar").

In the District rice is generally, at the cheapest, $1\frac{1}{2}$ measure to the Rupee. Ragi (Kurakkan) which they call "Keppei" in this part of the world instead of Kevuru, is 8 measures to the Rupee or cheaper. These are always sold by measure and not by weight and the Madras Measure is used. A Madras Measure contains 62.5 fluid ounces and there are therefore 20.48 measures in a bushel. This makes the price of rice here about Rs. 4.80 per bushel—considerably dearer than it is usually sold to coolies on the estates in Ceylon.

What has struck me in Ramnad District is the number of coolies that go to a far away place like Rangoon when Ceylon is almost at hand and is well known to them. Perhaps the new line will alter this to some extent but it must be remembered that there were always the ports of Tondi

and Pamban with Agencies at them. If planters, when sending over coolies to recruit will send authenticated notices showing how much it is possible for a cooly to earn on the particular estates and the usual price at which rice is issued perhaps recruiting for Ceylon would be livelier. This can scarcely be done in the general notices issued by the Ceylon Labour Commission in which the average rate of a day's pay only can be mentioned.

In conclusion I would point out that the density of the population of the Ramnad District is by no means so small as would appear in the Presidency Atlas. The villages are small, which is probably the reason why they are not shown on the Map, but they are fairly frequent and at least here you have people who are willing to go and will not submit to semi-starvation in their villages rather than emigrate.

During this camp I travelled:—

By Rail	...	823 miles.
By Road	...	223 miles.

Total ... 1,046 miles.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Commissioner.

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT OF ARCOT AND TELUGU CIRCLES ON RAMNAD DISTRICT.

Marriage Debts.

I have forgotten to add in the report of my June Camp some information I was able to gather about the marriages of landless coolies in the Ramnad District

I am told that in Ramnad it is not the custom for an ordinary labourer to spend much on a marriage: a matter of a few rupees suffices. The cooly can borrow little or nothing unless he has security to offer and very little or no money is brought by the guests as presents. It is customary for each guest to bring one measure (of rice preferably, one presumes) to contribute to the marriage feast.

It therefore seems evident that there, at any rate, marriage is not considered a valid reason for advancing to a man more than he would be able to borrow at any other time.

SCHEDULE OF VILLAGES VISITED DURING JUNE CAMP.

BETWEEN PARAMAKUDI AND SIVAGANGA, VIA
MANAMADURAI.

Kattuparamakkudi (Pop. 1,200), Tolichettur (200), Katchettur (100), Pudhukkottei (250), Karakkudi (150), Sandanur (200), Salapadhei (50), Manamadhurei (5,000), Kandani (200), Sivaganga (10,000.)

Of the above villages the only one that struck me unfavourably was Pudhukkottei. It is a village of weavers and they would have very little to do with me or my notices.

BETWEEN SIVAGANGA AND PARAMAKKUDI, VIA
ILEIYANGUDI.

Ottakkulam (50), Sengulam (200), Minniranjana Velangulam (135), Marudhangudi (200), Sambanur (200), Palkulam (100), Tachchanendal (200), Ilayangudi (4,000), Pudhur (1,500), Semanur (700), Paramakkudi (12,000.)

Ilayangudi, Pudhur and Semanur are Mahommedan places just as well to keep away from. Paramakkudi is full of the weaver caste.

BETWEEN PARAMAKKUDI AND RAMNAD.

Tandiragiri (250), Vagaikkulam (10), Ammappettai (200), Sirukkudi (100), Kilambur (100), Ramnad (15,000),

and near Ramnad: Eiyarmadam (100), Ideiyavalasei (100), Perungulam (300), Kodikkulam (50), Kavanur (1,000.)

BETWEEN MANAMADURAI AND KAMUDHI.

Meppasalei (150), Karisalkulam (60), Maruchchukkat (80), Parthibanur (3,500), Vadakkur (50), Kadeiyaganagan (100), Nattham (50), Abiramam (8,000), Nariyan Suppirappuram (100), Sadeiyanattham (50), Nedungulam (750), Kamudhi (8,000).

Abiramam is a Mahommedan town but all the other places including Kamudhi indicate, besides themselves, very good ground for recruiting.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched Monthly from Agency during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Telugu Circle.												
Guntakal	... 1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	22	91
"	... 1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452
"	... 1914	22	29	51	22	73	35	108	43	151	26	177
Cuddapah	... 1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95
"	... 1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	241
"	... 1914	12	33	45	...	45	20	65	13	78	12	90
Guntur	... 1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269	27	296
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	138
"	... 1914	2	2	4	6	10	7	17	10	27	31	58
Nellore	... 1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58
"	... 1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126
"	... 1914	7	...	7	7	14	4	18	4	22	3	25
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	51
"	... 1914	...	...	...	16	16	10	26	Transporting Agency. 26		Transporting Agency. 26	
Madras (Trans- porting Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arcot Circle.												
Katpadi	... 1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1082	415	1497
"	... 1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1263	342	1605
"	... 1914	102	140	242	171	413	199	612	295	907	352	1259
Arkonam	... 1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1014
"	... 1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1023
"	... 1914	114	69	183	61	244	144	388	230	618	194	812
Chingleput	... 1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953	562	1515
"	... 1913	99	132	231	223	454	424	878	440	1318	492	1810
"	... 1914	55	78	133	107	240	154	394	258	652	247	899
Willupuram	... 1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1277	501	1778
"	... 1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1059	682	1741	654	2395
"	... 1914	118	140	258	167	425	312	737	404	1141	562	1708
Salem Circle.												
Nanjangud	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19	88
"	... 1914	19	6	25	15	40	17	57	15	72	60	132
Dharmapuri	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115	13	128
"	... 1914	9	25	34	9	43	25	68	45	113	9	122
Kuppam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	5	16	21	2	23	9	32	16	48	9	57

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Salem Circle.												
Tirupathur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85	14	99
"	1914	6	6	12	...	12	...	12	4	16	6	22
Salem	1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	826	1103	313	1416
"	1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840	168	1008
"	1914	42	71	113	122	235	168	403	222	625	141	766
Jolarpet (Trans- porting Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Attur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182	67	249
"	1914	21	21	42	42	84	23	107	85	192	34	226
Namakkal	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	18	15	33	58	91	55	146	83	229	87	316
"	1914	23	41	64	55	119	167	286	110	396	133	529
Turaiyur	1912	5	32	37	6	43	29	71	137	208	215	423
"	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	319	233	552
"	1914	16	5	21	51	72	31	103	158	261	144	405
Musir	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	228	109	337
"	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	866	206	572
"	1914	13	2	15	19	34	73	107	222	293	258	587
Headquarter Circle.												
Cannanore	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	23	10	36	56	92
"	1914	85	18	53	27	80	59	139	87	176	35	211
Palghat	1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	82	302	167	469
"	1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	105	391	91	482
"	1914	38	89	127	65	192	83	275	141	419	179	595
Erode	1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	302	939	174	1113
"	1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	216	1021	274	1295
"	1914	50	106	156	121	277	162	439	164	603	293	896
Karur	1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	96	410	118	528
"	1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	184	527	87	614
"	1914	30	83	113	73	186	106	292	132	424	191	615
Trichinopoly	1912	740	1036	1776	1556	3332	3276	6608	6057	12665	6088	18758
"	1913	994	1201	2195	1453	3648	4081	7729	7639	15368	7193	22561
"	1914	740	796	1536	1371	2907	2747	5654	4668	10322	5258	15580
Manaparai	1912	111	103	214	185	349	129	478	344	822	297	1119
"	1913	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	425	1269	446	1715
"	1914	28	25	53	69	122	79	201	202	403	170	573
Dindigul	1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	289	835	293	1130
"	1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	403	1166	357	1523
"	1914	140	125	265	149	414	165	579	268	847	234	1081
Tanjore	1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879	328	1202
"	1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943	447	1390
"	1914	111	175	286	252	538	316	854	351	1205	491	1696
Ammapatnam	1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383	240	623
"	1913	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	179	444	174	618
"	1914	35	20	55	29	84	17	101	12	113	22	135
Puducottah	1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	214	698	348	1046
"	1913	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768	437	1205
"	1914	44	96	140	122	262	230	492	257	749	343	1092
Madura Circle.												
Madura	1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1178	603	1781	563	2344
"	1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1739	766	2505
"	1914	293	246	539	438	977	557	1534	851	2385	1045	3430
Pamban	1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201	93	294
"	1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224	68	292
"	1914	48	10	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
Mandapam	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	128	128	382	510	762	1272	758	2030
Tinnevely	1912	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773	291	1064
"	1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958	398	1357
"	1914	133	108	241	113	354	112	466	186	652	291	943

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Madura Circle.												
Tataparai	1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1024	522	1546	607	2153
"	1913	267	352	619	433	1052	761	1813	741	2554	801	3355
"	1914	122	161	283	157	440	180	620	302	922	214	1136
Tuticorin (Forwarding Agency)												
"	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	1912	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1070	360	1430
"	1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	1409
"	1914	111	56	167	44	211	30	241	77	318	59	377
Closed Agencies :—												
Coconada	1912	..	19	19	10	29	29	5	11	69	49	118
"	1913	6	15	21	37	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182
"	1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	...	118
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	1912	...	27	27	12	89	81	70	44	114	10	124
"	1913	19	25	44	2	46	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	6	5	11	10	21	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand total												
...	1912	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710	7365	18075	11717	29792	12546	42338
...	1913	3491	3911	7402	4837	12239	9328	21567	14882	36449	15063	51512
...	1914	2544	2798	5342	4030	9372	6623	15995	10544	26539	11804	38343

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1914.

AGENCIES.	PREVIOUSLY.					JUNE.					TOTAL.				G. TOTAL.
HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE:—															
	M.	F.	Ch.	Inft.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Inft.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Inft.	
1. Cannanore	187	7	0	2	176	25	7	2	1	35	192	14	2	3	211
2. Palghat	389	18	5	4	416	152	13	12	2	179	541	31	17	6	595
3. Erode	416	103	48	36	603	191	49	37	16	293	607	152	85	52	896
4. Karur	294	77	37	16	424	143	22	14	12	191	437	99	51	28	615
5. Trichinopoly	6,215	2,010	1,392	705	10,322	2,960	1,015	901	382	5,258	9,175	3,025	2,293	1,087	15,560
6. Manaparai	248	87	39	29	403	96	41	26	7	170	344	128	65	36	573
7. Dindigul	568	170	70	39	847	155	46	19	14	234	723	216	89	53	1,081
8. Tanjore	837	232	72	64	1,205	302	91	50	48	491	1,139	323	122	112	1,696
9. Annamapattanam	77	21	10	5	113	17	4	0	1	22	94	25	10	6	135
10. Pudukottah	445	124	127	53	749	197	56	62	28	343	642	180	189	81	1,092
MADURA CIRCLE:—															
11. Madura	1,397	480	345	163	2,385	592	213	153	87	1,045	1,989	693	498	250	3,430
12. Pamban	37	14	6	1	58	Closed.					37	14	6	1	58
13. Mandapam	717	267	195	93	1,272	379	174	147	58	758	1,096	441	342	151	2,030
14. Tinnevely	441	101	79	31	652	211	31	36	13	291	652	132	115	44	943
15. Tataparai	602	190	76	54	922	112	60	23	19	214	714	250	99	73	1,136
16. Tondi	192	70	33	23	318	42	11	2	4	59	234	81	35	27	377
SALEM CIRCLE:—															
17. Nanjangud	54	13	3	2	72	38	15	4	3	60	92	28	7	5	132
18. Dharmapuri	69	27	7	10	113	9	0	0	0	9	78	27	7	10	122
19. Kuppam	34	6	4	4	48	5	1	3	0	9	39	7	7	4	57
20. Tirupatur	8	7	0	1	16	5	1	0	0	6	13	8	0	1	22
21. Salem	385	123	60	57	625	92	24	15	10	141	477	147	75	67	766
22. Atur	109	41	25	17	192	22	6	1	5	34	131	47	26	22	226
23. Namakal	215	74	63	44	396	72	28	21	12	133	287	102	84	56	529
24. Turaiyur	116	69	43	33	261	70	26	31	17	144	186	95	74	50	406
25. Masiri	176	63	63	37	329	124	60	38	36	258	300	123	101	63	587

AGENCIES.		PREVIOUSLY.					JUNE.					TOTAL.				G. TOTAL.	
		M.	F.	Ch.	Inft.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Inft.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Inft.		
MAHARASHTRA CIRCLE :—																	
1907	Catpadi	568	200	84	55	907	226	81	29	16	352	794	281	113	71	1,259	
26.	Arkonam	410	131	34	43	618	104	46	20	24	194	514	177	54	67	812	
27.	Chingleput	427	139	58	28	652	168	50	23	6	247	595	189	81	34	899	
28.	Villuparam	723	236	83	99	1,141	378	103	44	37	562	1,101	339	127	136	1,703	
TELANGANA CIRCLE :—																	
30.	Guntakal	94	31	11	15	151	15	6	3	2	26	109	37	14	17	177	
31.	Cuddapah	48	15	6	9	78	6	5	1	0	12	54	20	7	9	90	
32.	Guntur	20	2	5	0	27	16	8	5	2	31	36	10	10	2	58	
33.	Nellore	13	5	2	2	22	3	0	0	0	3	16	5	2	2	25	
34.	Chittoor	11	12	1	2	26	Transporting Agent.					11	12	1	2	26	
		16,522	5,165	3,086	1,766	26,539	6,927	2,293	1,722	862	11,804	23,449	7,458	4,808	2,628	38,343	
																1913.....51,512	

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles.						
Trichinopoly (Manaparai Agency)	{ Kulitalai ... Musiri ... }	Fair	4	3	Good	
Tanjore ... (Tanjore Agency)	{ Arantangi ... Kumbaconam ... Mannargudi ... Mayaveram ... Nannilam ... Negapatam ... Papanasam ... Pattucottai ... Shiyali ... Tanjore ... Tiruraiipoondi ... }	Fair, water supply insufficient.	8	6	Fair	
Tanjore ... (Ammapatnam Agency)	{ Pattucottai ... Arantangi ... }	Fair	6	3	Good	
Puducottah State. ...	{ Kolatur ... Tirumayam ... Alangudi ... }	Ragi and paddy cultivation is going on.	4 5 4	3 3 3	Very poor Good	The late harvest was abundant. Owing to the recent rains the labour classes have sufficient local employment.
Ramnad ... (Mandapam Agency.)	{ Sathur ... Srivilliputur ... Ramnad ... Kamudi ... Rasimangalam ... Mudukolatur ... Kannangudi ... }	Crop Prospects fair in this District. No rain till to-day and hence the ryots are quite at home.	4	3	Recruiting Prospects are only fair. Kanganies who have come to the coast are still recruiting in their villages.	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY & AUGUST, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles.						
Ramnad ... (Tondi Agency)	Tiruvadani ...	Good crops.	4 to 6	3 to 4	Fair	Most of the Kanganies and coolies who came from the Estate with A. Forms to Tondi Agency return to the Estate with recruited coolies, via Mandapam. They prefer the quarantine at Mandapam rather than Ragama. The Indo-Ceylon Railway has much affected the shipment of coolies at Tondi.
	Tirupatur ...					
	Sivaganga ...					
	Paramakudi ...					
Tinnevely ... (Tinnevely and Tataparai Agencies.)	Tenkasi ...	Good	5	3	Fair	Season not bad. Transplantation got on all over the district.
	Ambasamudram ...	do	4½	2½		
	Tinnevely ...	Fair	5	3½	Fair	
	Nanguneri ...	Not bad	4	2½		
	Srivaikundam ...	Fair	6	3		
	Tiruchendur ...	do	5	3		
	Koalpatti ...	Not good	6	0-3-4		
Trivendrum ...	Sankaranainarkoil ...	do	6	3½	Fair	
			7	4		
		Good	(in Town sides) 4	2½		
Malabar ... (Cannanore Agency)	Cherakal ...	Unfavourable	5 to 6	2½ to 3	Good	This is the best season for recruiting as the prices of provisions are daily becoming higher.
	Kottayam ...					
	Kurambanad ...					
	Calicut ...					
	Ernad ...					
	Walawanad ...					
	Ponani ...					
(Palghat Agency)	Palghat ...					
	Wynaad ...					
Madura ... (Madura Agency)	Madura ...	Paddy crop	6	3	Fair	Standing paddy crops fair in parts where irrigation is available, patches of cultivation under wells are good. Tilling of ground in parts good. Rain is wanted to sow more paddy and ragi in all parts. Stable food is dearer. Maloor, Tirumangalam and Tirupatur contribute a good share of coolies.
	Maloor ...	fair. Tilling for paddy and ragi in parts				
Ramnad ...	Periakulam ...	do	4	3	Indifferent	
	Nilakottai ...	do	4	3	do	
	Tirumangalam ...	do	5	3	Good	
	Ramand ...	do	4	2½	Fair	
	Tirupuvanam ...	do	4	2	Good	
	Tirupatur ...	do	5	3	Fair	
	Sivaganga ...	do	5	3	do	
	Manamadura ...	do	4	3	Indifferent	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY & AUGUST, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles.						
Madura (Dindigul Agency)	Palani	... Cholam good, cumbu and ragi moderate.	5	3	Fair	This is the favourable season for recruiting coolies. Coolies can be had in great number from the villages attached to Dindigul and Palani, etc. At present food is cheap and besides they are going to harvest cholam within this month; after it is over coolies can be had in large numbers.
	Nilacottai	... do	5	0-2-6	do	
	Periakulam	... Paddy moderate, cumbu, cholam and ragi	4	0-20-	do	
Coimbatore	Udamalpet	... Cholam good.	5	0-2-0	do	Food grains will be sold at high prices in these months.
	Pollachi	... do				
(Erode Agency)	Palladam	...				There will be high demand for labourers in these months.
	Bavani	...				
	Chettipalayam	Rainfalls are insufficient				
	Avanasi	... sowing except	5 to 6	3 to 4		
	P. Darapuram	... paddy will be commenced				
	Sathimangalam	... lately				
	Udamalpet	...				
Trichinopoly	Pollachi	...				As the harvest- Coolies are available gradually. People ing crops is com-who are living in dry and wet lands are pletely over, engaged in daily wages only in building and coolies will here-mud work. after be available in these taluks.
	Karur	... Paddy nil	4	2½		
	Dharapuram	... do				

G. S. DUPEN,

Ceylon Labour Commissioner

Salem Circle.

Salem	Salem Town	Fair	5	2½	Poor	D. P. W. works still continue and most of the coolies available are employed thereon.
	Salem Taluk	Moderate	4	2	Poor	There has been heavy rain and more is expected, so that coolies are mostly engaged in cultivation at present.
	Omalur	Fair	4	2	Fair	As this Taluk depends on the rain for cultivation and the monsoon has started, a great amount of labour is not available.
	Trichengode	Good	4	2	Very poor	Ceylon representation is not good in this Taluk and very few coolies are available.
	Uttankarai	Moderate	4	2	Very fair	There is a great deal of labour available if fairly recruited. A large number continue to go to Penang.
	Hosur & Krishnagiri	Good	4	2	Poor	Large numbers are going to Penang on account of the higher wages paid. Very few Kanganies work in these Taluks.
	Dharmapuri	Poor	5	3	Moderate	Coolies are available if fairly recruited and encouraged by hearing from their relations on the Estate. The prospects appear good as the harvest will probably be less than half.
	Attur	Fair	4	3	Moderate	Most of the labour available continues to go to Penang and the Straits and Ceylon Kanganies recruiting in this taluk are, in consequence, returning empty handed, in a great many cases. Recruiting prospects may look up a bit later on.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY & AUGUST, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
Trichy	Namakkal	Moderate.	3 & 2	1½ to 2	Moderate	Coolies complain of poor wages in some parts and have some keenness to emigrate on this account.
	Musiri	...				
	Kulitalai & Perambalur	There are no standing crops at present, only Plantain and Betel Cultivation.	4 to 8	2½ to 3	Moderate	
North Arcot...	Tirupathur	Crops are being sown	4	2	Moderate	A few coolies may possibly be had shortly, but most of the Labour available in this Taluk is going to Penang at present. There is labour available in places, but several have lately returned from Penang with their savings; which has resulted in numbers being tempted to go there instead of to Ceylon. Notices are distributed freely during Shandies and festivals and the advantages of Ceylon are explained to the People.
	Kangundi Zemindari (Kuppam)	Rain is expected when crops will be sown	4	3	Moderate	
	Mysore	Bad	5	2	Moderate	
Mysore	Nanjangud	do	4	2	Good	Some little advertising has been undertaken of late which it is hoped will bear fruit. When Ceylon has been properly explained and if the coolies are fairly recruited, there is no doubt that a large amount of labour will be available in these parts, without interfering with those who go regularly to the Nilgiris, and since the crop prospects are so poor.
	Channarayana	do	3½	1½	do	
	Gundlupet	Crops being sown	3½	1½	Moderate	
	Yedatorai	Good	4	2	Poor	
	Seringapatam	Bad	4½	2	Moderate	
	Mandiya	do	3	1½	Bad	
	French Rocks	do	3½	2	do	
Nagamangala	do	4	2	do		

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
Salem Circle,
1st July, 1914.

Arcot & Telugu Circles.

Chittoor	Chittoor	Paddy & ragi growing poorly	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	Chittoor still has had insufficient rain and the tanks and many of the wells are empty.
	Kalahastry	do	do	do	do	
	Karvetnagar	do	do	do	do	
	Palamanair	do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Vayalpad	Paddy, ragi and sugarcane	do	do	do	
	Madanapalle	do	do	do	Fair	
	Punganur	do	do	do	Indifferent	
North Arcot	Chendragiri	Paddy & ragi	do	do	do	This district also lacks rain and much of the land has not been cultivated or has been put under dry crops.
	Arcot	Ragi good, cholam bad sesamem good	4	2	Good	
	Gudiyatam	do	do	do	do	
	Walaja	do	do	do	do	
	Vellore	do	do	do	do	
	Polur	do	do	do	Fair	
	Arni	do	do	do	Bad	
TAMIL DISTRICTS.	Wandiwash	do	do	do	do	
	Tiruvannamalai	do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Arkonam	Ragi harvest newly sown, kumbu and cholam harvest	do	do	Good	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY & AUGUST, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Aunas.	Annas.		
Arcot & Telugu Circles.						
Chittoor Chingleput	Putthoor and Karvetnagar	Ragi good, kumbu and cholam 2 months old	3 to 4	1½ to 3	Good	Chingleput has had a good season but recruiting prospects are now much better.
	Ponneri	do	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	
	Tiruvallur	Ragi full grown good and some are sown, kumbu and cholam 2 months old	do	do	Good	
	Chingleput	Nil	5	4	Good	
	Conjeevaram	do	do	do	do	
	Madurantakam	Ragi fair	do	do	do	
	Saidapet	Cumbu fair	do	do	do	
	Villupuram	Groundnut, kumbu and ragi	do	do	Fair	
	Kallakurchi	Sugarcane, cholam, kumbu and gingelly seeds	do	do	do	
	Chidambaram	Paddy & ragi	do	do	do	
South Arcot...	Viruthchalam	Paddy and kumbu	do	do	do	There is a third crop growing in many places but prospects are still good here.
	Tirukovilur	Ragi and groundnut	do	do	do	
	Tindivanam	Kumbu good	do	do	do	
	Cuddalore	Sugarcane good	do	do	do	
Telugu Districts.						
Cuddapah	Cuddapah	Commencing & Cultivation.	6	3	Good	Cuddapah has had a little rain but not nearly enough for cultivation yet.
	Jammalamadugu	do	8	4	Bad	
	Proddatur	do	3	2	Good	
	Badvel	do	do	do	do	
	Sidhout	do	do	do	do	
	Pullampet	do	4	do	do	
	Royachoty	do	do	do	do	
	Pulivendla	do	8	3	Bad	
	Kamalapuram	do	4	2	Good	
Nellore	Nellore	Ploughing season	2	1½	Indifferent	
	Podhili	do	do	do	do	
	Kanigiri	do	2½	1½	do	
	Kandukur	do	do	do	do	
	Udaigiri	do	2	1½	do	
	Kavili	do	3½	2	do	
	Atmakur	do	3	do	do	
	Kovoor	do	4	3	do	
			with one meal			
	Rapoor	do	2	1½	do	
	Gudur	do	5	3½	do	
			with one meal			
	Vengatagiri	do	do	do	do	
	Soolurpet	do	4	2½	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JULY & AUGUST, 1914.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Arcot & Telugu Circles.						
Guntur	Guntur	... Cholam, kum- bu, red-gram, cotton & chillies	4 to 5	2 to 3	Indifferent	
	Vinukonda	... do	do	do	Good	
	Narasarowpet	... do	do	do	do	
	Satnapalle	... do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Bapatla	... Paddy.	do	do	Bad	
	Tenali	... do	do	do	do	
Anantapur	Anantapur	... Cholam and ragi good.	5	3	Moderate	
	Dharmavareem	... do	4	2	do	
	Kadiri	... do	do	do	Bad	
Bellary	Uruvakonda	... Cumbu and cholam good.	4	2	Moderate	
	Bellary	... Paddy and ragi good.	5	2½	do	
	Royadrug	... do	do	do	do	
	Hospet	... Paddy excellant.	do	2	do	
	Adony	... do	do	2½	do	
Anantapur	Gooty	... Cumbu and cholam good.	do	1½	do	
	Tadpatri	... do	do	2½	do	
	Kaliyandrug	... Cholam excellant	4½	do	do	
Kurnool	Kurnool	... Paddy good.	5	do	do	
	Nandiyal	... Cotton good.	4½	do	do	
	Dhone	... do	5½	do	do	

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,

Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month ending June, 1914.

DETAIL.																									Instructional Staff.			REMARKS.
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Tpts.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Total.			
Regtl. Staff		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	1	1	1	3	
A. Squadron																												
Staff	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	25	27	28	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	5	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	16	19	20	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	3	1	19	29	30	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	5	5	1	64	82	87	...	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron																												
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	9	13	14	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	10	10	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	19	22	23	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	5	8	9	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	4	3	1	42	56	61	...	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	5	5	1	64	82	87	...	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	4	3	1	42	56	61	...	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	...	2	2	7	1	2	9	8	2	106	141	156	1	1	1	3			
Total Strength last Return	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	...	2	2	6	1	2	9	7	3	104	138	153	...	...	...	...	...
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	3			
Wanting to Complete	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	1	...	2	4	...	...	4	...	6	78	93	96	...	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	1	1	2	6	...	10	1	1	1	1	...	8	...	...	2	1	1	32	48	58	...	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve	...	2	4	5	13	1	25	2	2	1	3	2	13	1	2	11	9	3	138	189	214	1	1	1	3			

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1914.

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,
Adjt. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

THE CEYLON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY PRICE CURRENT.

STATEMENT OF EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

COLOMBO, MONDAY, 27th JULY, 1914.							Rs.		Cts.		@		Rs.		Cts.	
No. 28																
RICE.																
Muttusamba No. 1 (without bags) per bushel F O. R. Colombo	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	50	7	00	...	...	6	50	...	...
" " 2 " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	00	6	00	...	...	6	00	...	...
" " 3 " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	00	4	00	...	...	4	00	...	...
" " 1 " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	65	4	65	...	...	4	65	...	...
Soolaye " 2 " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	55	4	55	...	...	4	55	...	...
" " 3 " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	50	4	50	...	...	4	50	...	...
" " " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	30	4	30	...	...	4	30	...	...
" Kara " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	05	5	05	...	...	5	05	...	...
Silhet (Hari Kali) " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	66	...	...	4	66	...	...
Pegu & Calcutta Calunda " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coast Calunda " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coast Kara " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kadappa and Kuruwe " " " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rangoon Raw " per 3 bushel bag " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...



Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 10th July, 1914, at 12 noon. Present:—Mr. Hew Kennedy (Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon), Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot, Messrs. T. Y. Wright (Chairman, K. K. and Panwila P.A.), A. Lee Simpson (Kandy), J. L. Tancock (Kandy), Major Walton (visitor), H. M. Picken (Chairman, Pussellawa P. A.), Wallace R. Westland (Kandy), E. F. Home (Chairman, Kandy Districts P.A.), J. Hall Brown (Chairman, Rangalla P.A.), H. B. T. Boucher (Rangalla P. A.), A. P. Juckes (Maskeliya P.A.), C. B. Prettijohn (Chairman, Maskeliya P.A.), H. F. Laycock (Dickoya P.A.), William Gibson (Haputale P.A.) T. Gidden (Kandy), A. A. Bowie (Dimbula P.A.), Geo. Benzie (Pussellawa P.A.), Neill G. Campbell (Nuwara Eliya Districts P.A.), J. B. Coles (Kandy), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), R. W. Carmichael (visitor), W. Coombe (Kandy), J. T. Broom (Colombo), George Brown (Chairman, Sabaragamuwa P.A.), E. C. Villiers (Hon. Secretary, Sabaragamuwa P.A.), G. W. Hunter Blair (K. K. and Panwila P.A.), J. R. Barkley (Chairman, Kalutara P.A.), G. Kent Deaker (Passara P.A.), H. Inglis (Kalutara P.A.), H. G. Eccles (Chairman, Dickoya P.A.), C. J. Owen (Chairman, Uda Pussellawa P. A.), Gordon Windus (Uda Pussellawa P.A.), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P.A.), A. S. Long Price (Kandy), A. M. Carver (Hon. Secretary, Kurunegala P.A.), Wyndham F. Baker (Chairman, Urugala P.A.), A. Thorp (Matale P.A.), H. S. Cameron (Chairman, Matale P.A.), H. D. Garrick (Matale P.A.).

Gerald Abbott (Matale P.A.), A. A. Franklin (Chairman, Kegalle P.A.), J. F. W. Brockman (Hon. Secretary, Matale P.A.), J. G. Napier (K.K. and Panwila P.A.), J. M. Urquhart (visitor), H. J. Brown (Visitor, Kotmale, M. S. Milne (Chairman, Kotmale P.A.), F. R. Bisset (visitor, Dolosbagie), S. P. Blackmore (Ambegamuwa P.A.), C. D. Hunt (K. K. and Panwila P.A.), H. Hopwood (Hon. Secretary, K. K. and Panwila P.A.), W. N. Tisdall (Kandy), A. T. Sydney Smith (Dimbula P.A.), and John Still (Secretary, P.A. of Ceylon).—50 members and 4 visitors.

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of meetings of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy on the 8th and 22nd May, 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. F. H. Layard, W. de Lemos, L. Bayly, W. S. Niebecker, G. H. Masefield, C. W. Bovy Lysberg, Huntley Wilkinson, J. S. Patterson, Wm. Sinclair, D. Finch Noyes, A. J. Hamilton Harding, J. C. Mitchell, and J. Farley Elford.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Read letters from the Galle District P.A. asking the Parent Association to request the Hon. the Rural Member, Legislative Council, to visit roads, hospitals, etc., in Galle District.

Resolved:—"That this Committee does not see its way to ask the M.L.C. to undertake such duties."

Read letter from the Dimbula District P.A. giving certain hospital returns for that District.

Resolved:—"That District Associations be invited to co-operate in effecting all possible improvement."

UNEXPENDED BALANCES.

Read the following letter from Government, giving details of unexpended Public Works Department balances, furnished at the request of this Association for the information of the Passara District P.A.:—

STATEMENT SHOWING THE AMOUNTS VOTED AND EXPENDED DURING THE PERIOD OF TEN YEARS, EXTENDING FROM 1903 TO 1912-13 ON ROADS IN CEYLON.

AMOUNT VOTED.			
Years.	Maintenance of Roads.	New Roads.	
1903 ...	1,693,816-49	436,785-50	
1904 ...	1,715,921-25	493,580-67	
1905 ...	1,794,262-00	316,070-01	
1906 ...	1,938,124-50	300,204-18	
1907 ...	1,960,753-14	385,649-05	
1908 ...	2,013,228-10	470,707-59	
1909 ...	2,021,186-00	488,804-00*	
1910-1911 (18 months) ...	3,130,483-75	946,139-77*	
1911-1912 ...	2,283,934-02	880,324-97*	
1912-1913 ...	2,449,315-00	794,629-46*	
Total ...	21,001,024-25	5,512,895-26	

* Contains surplus balance provision in addition.

Years.	Additions and improvements to Roads.	Total.
1903 ...	328,610-65	2,459,212-64
1904 ...	430,410-13	2,639,912-05
1905 ...	364,811-84	2,475,143-85
1906 ...	528,564-65	2,766,893-33
1907 ...	531,329-89	2,877,732-08
1908 ...	474,886-10	2,958,821-79
1909 ...	465,777-96*	2,975,767-96
1910-1911 (18 months) ...	619,782-95*	4,696,406-53
1911-1912 ...	611,713-41	3,775,972-40
1912-1913 ...	426,346-20	3,670,290-66
Total ...	4,782,233-78	31,296,153-29

EXPENDITURE.

Years.	Maintenance of Roads.	New Roads.
1903 ...	1,617,312-83	240,460-10
1904 ...	1,662,254-18	368,035-52
1905 ...	1,707,604-11	240,617-81
1906 ...	1,824,719-61	212,797-48
1907 ...	1,890,980-20	210,434-65
1908 ...	1,970,869-24	204,936-55
1909 ...	1,943,395-15	250,322-72
1910-1911 (18 months) ...	3,010,579-91	697,887-36
1911-1912 ...	2,182,067-89	556,271-12
1912-1913 ...	2,334,099-63	574,695-35
Total ...	20,143,882-75	3,556,458-66

Years.	Additions and improvements to Roads.	Total.
1903 ...	192,384-05	2,050,156-98
1904 ...	324,592-15	2,354,881-85
1905 ...	325,377-42	2,273,599-34
1906 ...	422,373-88	2,459,890-97
1907 ...	418,962-20	2,520,377-05
1908 ...	457,777-85	2,633,583-64
1909 ...	323,590-59	2,517,308-46
1910-1911 (18 months) ...	507,756-75	4,216,224-02
1911-1912 ...	347,320-87	3,085,659-88
1912-1913 ...	242,456-27	3,151,251-25
Total ...	3,562,592-03	27,262,933-44

Subheads.	Amount voted.	Amount expended.	Unexpended balance.
Maintenance of Roads ...	21,001,024-25	20,143,882-75	857,141-50
New Roads ...	5,512,895-26	3,556,458-66	1,956,436-60
Additions and Improvements to Roads ...	4,782,233-78	3,562,592-03	1,219,641-75
Total ...	31,296,153-29	27,262,933-44	4,033,219-85

No. 7824.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, May 23rd, 1914.

The SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

With reference to your letter dated the 23rd April, 1914 I am directed to forward herewith a statement shewing the amounts voted and expended on roads in Ceylon during the period of ten years extending from 1903 to 1912-13.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) H. M. MOORE,
For Colonial Secretary.

Resolved:—"That Government be thanked for furnishing the figures."

LAND SETTLEMENT.

Read the following letter from the Matale District Planters' Association.

Owilikande,
Matale, May 25th, 1914.

J. STILL, Esq.,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon,
Kandy.

MATALE DISTRICT P. A.

DEAR SIR,
My Association at the general meeting held in Matale on the 16th May, supports the following resolution from the Badulla P.A.

RESOLUTION.

"That the reservations for paths, minor roads, and streams, now being put on Crown land advertised for sale, are in a number of cases unwarrantable and vexatious, and that Government be

requested to empower the Government Agents to lease such reservations as they may consider unnecessary to the purchaser without reserve."

I am,

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) J. F. W. BROCKMAN,
Hon. Secretary,
Matale P. A.

Resolved:—"That this Association be informed that the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents and Settlement Officers have at the present time the power to recommend to Government that any such reservations as appear unwarrantable and vexatious shall be leased or sold; further resolved that the Matale Planters' Association be invited to quote any specific instances of such recommendations being negatived by Government."

Read the following letter from the Uda-Pussellawa Planters' Association:—

Blairlmond, Uda-Pussellawa,
January 6th, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association.

SIR,

At a meeting of the above Association held on the 29th. the appended resolution was passed and I am instructed to ask you to take the matter up:—

The resolution was brought up primarily with a view to obtain some protection from the systematic blackmailing at present extant at sales of Government land. Instances were quoted of blackmailers demanding sums of money from applicants for Government land as bribes for abstaining from bidding up the land at the sale. In some cases where these bribes have not been paid the blackmailers have bought the land and have left it waste until such times as, being surrounded by cultivated land, they have been able to command an enhanced price. It was also pointed out that the application fees paid are in many cases left alone for one or two years before the land is put up for sale and that the depositor of this money loses, perhaps two years interest and still may at the sale, be outbid by some one who has not the least intention of cultivating.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) R. T. THORNTON,
Hon. Secretary,

RESOLUTION REFERRED TO.

"The Government be asked to give some protection to those who deposit money on application for Government land, either by leasing the land to them or by allowing them to purchase it at a reasonable rate to be settled by the Government Agent, and that the Parent Association be asked to take the matter up."

The Secretary, Planters' Association.

Resolved:—"That a copy of the letter be sent to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and an expression of his views solicited."

Resolved:—"That the Hon. the Rural Member, Legislative Council, be requested to ask Government for figures showing how much money is now on deposit on account of and applications."

Read letter from the Secretary to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary dated 13th May, 1914, and the reply:—

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, July 1st, 1914.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter dated 13th May, 1914, relative to the above subject, I am directed to state that every endeavour is made to ensure that no counter claimant is at the time of the sale in physical possession of any portion of land sold by Government, and that Government is always prepared to consider on its merits any case that may arise.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) M. A. YOUNG,
For Colonial Secretary.

Read also a confidential report from Government on the same subject.

Resolved:—"That Government be thanked for the report and that certain points be represented to the Badulla District Planters' Association."

BATTA TO WITNESSES.

Read letter from Government intimating that there is no intention at present of raising the rates of batta to witnesses in Supreme Court cases.

LAND REGISTRATION.

Read correspondence with a member of the Galle District P.A. regarding difficulty he has experienced in obtaining permission to search for entries affecting certain property.

Resolved:—"That this question be referred back to the Galle District P. A., and that they be requested to report on the case."

ADULTERATED TEA.

Read letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary enclosing copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies regarding the re-export to Colombo of certain consignments of tea (dust) containing an excessive proportion of sand.

It was notified to the meeting that this had been forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce and Mr. J. T. Broom informed the meeting that that body was taking the matter up.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

Read the following letter from the Hon. the Acting Surveyor-General.—

Colombo, July 2nd, 1914.

From the SURVEYOR-GENERAL to JOHN STILL, Esq., Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon, Kandy.

SUBJECT: NEW ONE MILE MAP OF C. P.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward by train under separate cover a coloured new one mile map of C. P. mounted on cloth in two parts.

Yours, &c.,
(Signed) J. BELL, for W. C. S. INGLES,
Acting Surveyor-General.

Resolved:—"That a vote of thanks be passed."

PLAGUE.

Read the following letter from Government:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, June 8th, 1914.

The SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd May, 1914, and to state that the proposal of your Association that Mr. F. H. Layard be appointed planting representative on the Plague Committee in place of Mr. E. Turner, meets with the ready approval of Government.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) H. M. MOORE,
For Colonial Secretary.

Read the following minute passed at a Meeting of the Sanitary Board of the Kandy District held on Saturday, the 20th June, 1914.

(1) Resolved *re* plague precautions that a copy of the correspondence be forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary; resolved further that this Board regards with concern the fact that no steps are being taken by the Chairman Plague Committee to prevent the transport upcountry of goods liable to carry plague infection and begs to draw the attention of Government thereto, and to enquire whether Government will issue orders with a view to preventing the risk of plague being conveyed to the planting districts by the transport of articles likely to carry infection.

Resolved:—"That this Committee desires to support the action taken by the Sanitary Board and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and the Hon. the Government Agent, C. P."

POLICE.

Read a complaint forwarded by the Kandy Districts P. A., regarding the behaviour of a police guard put on to watch small-pox contacts.

Resolved:—"That a copy of the letter be forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary with a request that an inquiry into the circumstances may be held."

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The proposed new regulations for the control of this pest were discussed. As it is understood that an expert will shortly arrive in Ceylon whose whole time will be devoted to the study of this disease it was resolved: "That this Committee generally approve of the Draft Regulations subject to the expert's favourable report on them."

ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS.

The Chairman made a statement of the progress to date in organizing an attack on this disease, mentioning the following items: "viz., Dr. Langley Hunt, C.M.G., is to be detailed by Government to take charge and control of the experiments: a deputation composed of members of the Planters' Association and Chamber of Commerce and the

Colombo Estates Agents' Association waited upon H. E. the Governor who informed them that the cost of the experiments would be met by Government from general revenue: the P. C. M. O. and the Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon, have together selected certain areas in which to commence experiments.

THE INTERNATIONAL RUBBER CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION, BATAVIA (JAVA).

Resolved:—"That a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Dr. Lieftinck, Secretary-General of the above Exhibition for the generous offer made by him on behalf of the Government of Java.

Dr. Lieftinck has asked me at the same time to invite all rubber planters to send him exhibits of about 100 lbs. each. If these are addressed to him care of the Chamber of Commerce they will be transported free to Java and exhibited. Dr. Lieftinck has undertaken to sell the exhibits after the Exhibition and to make good the difference if they should fetch less than the exhibitor would have normally got in the market.

Any exhibits thus sent should not reach the Chamber of Commerce later than the first week in August and should be accompanied by a short note of the age of the plantation and the elevation, etc.

Resolved:—"That this Committee is of opinion that the Planters' Association delegate should be sent to the Exhibition. After some discussion a member present was prevailed upon to consider the prospect of visiting the Exhibition as the Planters' Association delegate, and promised his formal reply in a day or two."

CARDAMOM THEFTS.

Read letter from Government.

Colonial Secretary's Office
Colombo, May 11th, 1914.

The SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter dated April 3rd, 1914, on the subject of legislation to prevent cardamom thefts, I am directed to state that it is not in contemplation to introduce a measure into the Council in the immediate future.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) M. A. YOUNG,
For Colonial Secretary.

Resolved:—"That the Hon. the Rural Member, Legislative Council, be requested to keep this matter before Government."

Resolved:—"That cardamom growers be asked to send in to the Secretary, Planters' Association, details of instances of thieves escaping prosecution owing to the lack of adequate legal protection of the growers."

COCONUT THEFTS.

Read a letter from the Low-country Products Association.

Resolved:—"That the Low-country Products Association be thanked for their letter and their proposal that the Kurunegala, Chilaw and Batticaloa District Planters' Association

ciations be asked to assist in making a combined representation in order to bring the seriousness of the offence to the notice of Magistrates and Police Officers and by prescribing the necessary legal procedure by an amending Ordinance, be adopted."

TEA PLANT THEFTS.

It was notified that the Government "Gazette" of the 22nd May, contained a draft Ordinance to deal with these and other thefts.

Resolved:—"That Government be thanked for bringing forward this measure."

EXCISE.

Read correspondence with Government.

Planters' Association of Ceylon.
Kandy, May 13th, 1914.

The HON'BLE,
The COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

EXCISE.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward an extract from the Minutes of Proceedings of a meeting of my Committee held on the 8th May, 1914, and to request the favour of your opinion on the question whether the Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Kandy Revenue District was in order in exercising both a vote and a casting vote to negative the decision arrived at by the Members of the Board.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, June 5th, 1914.

No. 9091.
The SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Sir,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter dated May 13th, 1914, on the subject of the functions of Excise Advisory Committees, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to state that there is no question of negating a "decision" arrived at by the members of the Committee, and that the use of the term "vote" is incorrect. The decision in each case is that of the Government Agent, the functions of the Committee being of a purely advisory character.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) M. A. YOUNG,
For Colonial Secretary.

Resolved:—"That the Secretary do write the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and inquire whether the present working of these boards is consistent with the Secretary of State's intentions as quoted in paragraphs 123 and 124 of the Excise Commissioner's report for 1913.

Read the following letter from the Honorary Secretary, Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association.

Keenagaha Ella,
Balangoda, E.C., July 7th, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

I have to inform you that it was resolved to send the enclosed resolution to the Parent Association for their advice.

I shall be glad if you will lay the matter before your Committee at the next meeting.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) E. C. VILLIERS,
Hon. Secretary,
Sabaragamuwa P. A.

RESOLUTION.

"That Government be asked whether some improved method of inspection cannot be instituted, and to order, under section 31 of sub-section 2, para. E., sub-para. 1, that wherever possible in planting districts, taverns shall be situated near to or even on European-owned land, and to appoint, under section 7, sub-section C. and E. and section 31, sub-section 2, para. L. sub-para. 5, 6, 7 and 8, honorary officers to perform acts and duties mentioned in sections 32, 34, and 42 (modified) and 45a, of Ordinance No. 8 of 1912.

A discussion lasting thirty-five minutes followed this and was marked by an able exposition of his idea by Mr. E. C. Villiers. The meeting was of opinion that this question required most careful consideration, and it was resolved that a sub-Committee be appointed to examine and report upon the proposal before the next meeting. The following members were elected to serve on this sub-Committee, viz., Messrs. T. Y. Wright, E. C. Villiers, J. B. Coles, H. G. Eccles, Geo. Brown, A. Thorp, the Chairman and the Secretary.

ORDINANCE NO. 9 OF 1909.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that Mr. H. M. Drummond Hay had written explaining the circumstances of the case in which he recently had to prosecute certain cooly women for bolting, with the result that they were imprisoned. The explanation was taken as entirely satisfactory and it was understood that Mr. Drummond Hay had practically no other course open to him in the circumstances.

LUGGAGE INSURANCE ON THE CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

Resolved:—"That the General Manager, Ceylon Government Railway, be asked to provide wire and lead seals at railway stations for the convenience of persons wishing to register and insure luggage."

EXTRADITION WARRANTS.

It was notified that inquiry into this question was proceeding.

LIQUID FUEL.

Read letter from the Secretary to the General Manager, Ceylon Government Railway.

Kandy, 9th June, 1914.

THE GENERAL MANAGER,
Ceylon Government Railway,
Colombo.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that letters from several sources have been received in this office complaining of the shortage of up-country depots of liquid fuel.

On inquiry it appears that the cause of the trouble is not to be found in any insufficiency of the supply in Colombo but in the present restrictions on its transmission up-country by the railway. and I am given to understand that the reasons which are most operative are:—

- (1) A shortage in the requisite rolling stock, and
- (2) certain regulations which prevent daily despatch of this commodity.

I am directed to inquire how soon it will be possible to remove these restrictions and generally improve the position.

It would not be out of place here to invite your consideration of the magnitude of the trade which will very shortly develop. There can be no doubt that motor lorry traffic will increase enormously during the next few years, and that the time is not far distant when almost all Estate produce will reach the railway by that mode of transport rather than, as now, by bullock carts.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

Resolved:—"That the General Manager be asked for a reply to this letter written nearly two months ago."

Resolved:—"That the General Manager, Ceylon Government Railway, be asked whether he can arrange for the carriage of liquid fuel in tanks to be carried on ordinary trucks pending the expected arrival of new rolling stock."

DISTRICT ASSOCIATION TRUST PROPERTIES.

It was notified that a report on this matter made by Messrs. H. A. Beachcroft, G. C. Bliss and VanLangenberg advocated incorporation of the Planters' Association. This, and other connected matters, will be laid before members in time for consideration before the next meeting.

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the meeting.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.



DICKOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Dickoya Planters' Association was held at Norwood Club, Dickoya, 25th June, 1914. Mr. H. G. Eccles, Chairman, presided and others present were:—Messrs. H. F. Laycock, C. W. Jones, A. C. T. Meyer, G. H. Sparkes, D. H. Kelly, P. H. Aste, L. C. Maudslay, G. F. Stanford, G. W. Huntingdon; S. C. Traill, E. W. Napper, H. C. Cowell, G. F. Clarke, G. V. H. Prideaux, E. W. Morris, J. H. Armitage, R. K. Clark, E. Massy, R. H. Cooper, R. D. Kershaw, H. J. T. de Cartaret (visitor), H. G. Hickey (visitor), A. R. Aitken (visitor), C. E. Wedd (visitor), S. Stevenson (visitor), with the Hon. Secretary, (Mr. H. E. Cates).

CONGRATULATIONS.

The CHAIRMAN said he wished to make the suggestion that the Association offer its congratulations to the Hon. Mr. Huyshe Eliot on his election as Rural Member of the Legislative Council. (Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The CHAIRMAN said it might be necessary, as they had not called a meeting of the Association earlier, that he should give a short review of the business completed or attempted since the last meeting in February. They had had a letter from the Colonial Secretary that His Excellency had been pleased to take over that important interdistrict and inter-provincial road between the Balangoda and Bogawantalawa districts and had granted a certain sum for the repair of the 3½ miles of road and a bridge which were in the Central Province. His Excellency had also ordered an annual grant for future maintenance. That was very satisfactory news, as last year they had a good deal of correspondence with regard to it. He regretted he could not tell them that that equally important interdistrict road through the Bopats had received similar attention but that matter would come before them that day. With regard to mechanical transport, he had been in verbal communication with various transport agents. A native contractor assured him that he was ready to place two large lorries on the Maskeliya road as soon as the regulation limit was raised. He thought it would not be a bad idea if he (the Chairman) were to approach Government with the idea of raising the limit because those who were interested in the transport business were hesitating about purchasing lorries until they could be assured they could have a four to five ton lorry on the roads. He thought he would address a letter to the Colonial Secretary on the subject at once. A meeting of the Association without reference to the Norwood arrack tavern would be like discussing Hamlet and ignoring the Prince of Denmark. The Association had always been opposed to the establishment of that tavern in that locality. It was necessary to carry their opposition further and before the sale of the new rents, so he asked the Rural Member to approach His Excellency with a view to a personal interview. To show the interest His Excellency took in planting matters and the careful consideration he intended to devote to all local appeals, he (the Chairman) had to tell them that His Excellency commanded Mr. Eliot and himself to have interviews with him on three separate occasions. Those were attended throughout by the Colonial Secretary. The outcome might not be considered altogether satisfactory, as they were unable to get that tavern abolished, but he believed His Excellency was so far convinced by their arguments and representations against the tavern being located at Norwood—it was an unfair division of the district and was detrimental to the coolies' welfare—that he consented and expressed his willingness to remove the tavern to a site elsewhere in the district, where the object of the Excise scheme could be supplied. If any member could suggest a less objectionable site he would be very glad to forward the suggestion to Government. (Laughter and not likely.)

Notices had already been sent out that the services of Dr. Vere Nicholl had been secured for their medical scheme. He would arrive in Ceylon about July 20th. The scheme had been well supported and it only remained for them to convert those promises of adherence into a more substantial form. There had been uncertainty in regard to the collection of those retainers, but he was to say, for the benefit of those members, who were not there that day and for their friends in Maskeliya, that it had been arranged that the retainers would be collected from July 1st for six months of the year only. They might consider that the medical facilities of the district were now unique with two first-class doctors at hand and a well qualified nursing association in the district. (Applause.) In regard to the affairs of the Church he regretted he was unable to supplement any report of progress towards building the vicarage or establishing a resident chaplain. The control of the stipend was now in the hands of a strong Committee of Dickoya and Maskeliya churchmen and they were watching the development of the account with keenness. He had hoped that before the first six months of the year were completed the Committee would have been in a position to act, but they would readily understand the impossibility of any definite action being taken when only 43 per cent. of their expectations had been received and that only 37 per cent. of the estates had subscribed. He regretted to see that only 22 per cent. of the residents had contributed anything at all to the fund. It was now nine months since Mr. Clarke and himself issued their report. Appeals had been made from the pulpit and representations made to all members of the Association in that room. He hoped those appeals had not been made in vain. He must ask those who were members of the Church of England to make a direct appeal to their proprietors and agents to support the Church. Recommendations coming from them, more especially if they could point out that they were themselves contributing, would have far greater effect and weight with the proprietors than any circular or letter that Association could send out. The special Church Committee had arranged to hold fifty-two services during the first nine months of this year and these were being undertaken very kindly, by the Bishop of Colombo and his clergy; they deserved their deepest gratitude. The election of trustees for the Church property in Dickoya was discussed in Committee and they had postponed the matter for the present as there seemed to be some want of knowledge as to the duties of the trusteeship and other particulars. They had to get information from the Bishop and others.

THE BOPATS ROAD.

Mr. SPARKES said he was very pleased to hear what the Chairman had said just now, but he wished to point out the unfairness of the Government expecting estates around the road to contribute towards it, while the road ran entirely through their own reserved land. He proposed that the D.R.C. be asked to take over the road.

Mr. MEYER seconded.

The CHAIRMAN said it was really a matter of continuing their correspondence and insisting upon them taking it over.

Mr. SPARKES said he proposed, further, that the Dimbula P.A. be asked to support them in the matter.

The CHAIRMAN said they would remember that last year the matter was referred to them by the Dimbula P.A. and Mr. Sparkes sent in an application for Rs. 200 to the D.R.C., undertaking the repair of the road providing the D.R.C. did not insist upon their usual clause of estates being interested in any particular road contributing half the amount. Mr. Sparkes, in a most public-spirited way, and taking advantage of the available labour force and the fine weather, got the road into good order from Jacob's Ladder to Holmwood, a distance of about five to six miles. The D.R.C. said they would not vote any money unless the estates concerned contributed half. It so happened that no estates were concerned at all, so, by logic, the D.R.C. should contribute the whole amount. The Dimbula P.A. had paid Rs. 180, half the full cost of Rs. 360, so that Mr. Sparkes was within his estimate of Rs. 200 for the completion of the road.

LIQUID FUEL INSTALLATION AT HATTEN.

The CHAIRMAN said, respecting this matter, that he had received, lately, a number of complaints from various people as to the lack of supplies of liquid fuel at Hatton. He understood it was a very common complaint all over the country. The suppliers, Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., had been interviewed by the *Times of Ceylon*, and had written letters explaining why they were unable to deliver regular and prompt orders, and that the entire fault rested with the railway in not having sufficient waggons at hand. He knew what shortage was himself, as he was a great user of the fuel, and it had caused the very greatest inconvenience, and something should be done to rectify matters. Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. told him that Government expected certain waggons out in September. The parts would come from England and be put together in the Colombo railway works, so that they would not be available before December. That made the question all the more acute, as it meant that the unsatisfactory state of short deliveries would continue for another six months or more.

Mr. MEYER said a protest should be made to Government by all the Planters' Associations. District P.A.'s should be asked to support them very strongly in the matter. Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. said they had been, for some years, asking for rolling stock.

Mr. TRAILL said he went into the subject on several occasions and sent letters to Messrs. Brown & Co., to which they said there were always large supplies in Colombo but they could not get them handled. For Hatton alone in a week the figures for liquid fuel were 17,000 gallons and the supplies were only 7,000 gallons, leaving a shortage of 10,000. One of the tank trucks held 2,500 gallons; therefore Hatton alone wanted four out of the six trucks. Out of twenty installations, nineteen had two trucks between

them. Among the up-country installations at Bandarawella, Nanuoya Talawakelle, Gampola, Kandy and Kadugannawa two trucks were not going to do very much good. He had it on a certain authority that two estates in Haputale were practically closed down for want of liquid fuel, and these were points which could not be forced too promptly upon Government. After all, planting was the staple industry of the island, and if they could not get the fuel that leaf would accumulate and go bad, prices would drop and Ceylon tea would get a bad name. That would be to the detriment of the whole trade of the island, and Government ought to be made to realise that if it was not for tea and rubber there would not be any Government. (Laughter). They would not want a Government. They ran the island. It ought to be pointed out to the railway that five or six trucks were not going to be much good among twenty installations, when Hatton needed four to make up the shortage. Another point was that when the trucks arrive by goods train they were put at the far end of the yard and they stood on the line four to five hours to wait for a light engine to come and shunt them down. All the time their drums remained empty and the coolies were sitting down enjoying themselves. (Laughter). He had often gone into the matter with Mr. Greene of keeping one old type engine at Hatton for shunting purposes. He thought a very strong protest should be sent to Government, asking the Railway or the Government to act at once, and if necessary cable Home for more oil waggons, because those six were only a drop in the ocean. It was a sprat to catch a mackerell—(laughter)—and six waggons were not nearly enough. (Applause.)

Mr. MASSY supported Mr. Traill's remarks. Failing satisfaction from the G.M. they should go direct to the Colonial Secretary with their grievance. It was the only way to get anything done. If they waited for the railway they would not get anything done at all.

Mr. MAUDSLAY suggested that the Rural Member should interview the Governor about it.

The CHAIRMAN thought it ought to go before the Parent P.A. for them to request the Rural Member to bring it up.

Mr. ASTE said he had a letter from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. saying it was not an insufficiency of waggons that was causing the trouble, but the indifferent running of what the railway had. They also referred to the demand for the fuel abating somewhat in the near future.

A RESOLUTION.

The following resolution was then passed, Mr. MASSY having seconded it: "That this Association would most strongly protest against the dilatory manner in which the transport of liquid fuel is being conducted by the Railway Department, and that the G.M. be asked to give the matter his earnest attention; that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Parent Association for their immediate support, and that in the opinion of this Association the proposed extra six waggons are quite inadequate and would suggest twelve waggons be got out at once."

GLENCAIRN HOSPITAL.

The following report by Mr. Kershaw on Glencairn Hospital was read:—

Visited on February 13th, April 6th, and May 18th, 1914. The number of patients on dates of my visits were:—February 13th, males 35, females 33, total 68; April 6th, 44—25, 69; May 18th, 66—35, 101. Wards, latrines, bathrooms, very clean; staff, sufficient on dates of my visits; complaints, none; food, satisfactory; grounds, in good order.

LEVEL CROSSINGS.

A letter was read from the D.P.W. stating that an estimate had been sanctioned for improving the Hatton and Fruithill railway crossings, and the work was in progress.

ROAD GRANTS FROM GOVERNMENT.

The following letter, dated April 7th, 1914, was read from the Colonial Secretary:—

ROAD TO JOIN THE BALANGODA AND DICKOYA DISTRICTS.

I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to order that a sum of Rs. 400 be included in the estimates for 1914-15 as a grant to the District Road Committee Kandy, to enable that body to put in good order the 3½ miles of the bridle path in the Central Province and to have the bridge repaired.

2. His Excellency has further been pleased to order that an annual grant of Rs. 250 be made to the District Road Committee thereafter towards the upkeep of this section of the bridle path.

3. I am to add that Government is not prepared to take over the road.

The CHAIRMAN said that was a matter which they agitated for last year and which was brought to their notice by the Sabaragamuwa P.A. It was a matter for congratulation to them that the Government should undertake the repairs and vote a sum for future maintenance.

AN APPOINTMENT.

The Hon. Mr. Huyshe Eliot having otherwise become a member of the Kandy Committee, Mr. H. B. Daniel, at the motion of the CHAIRMAN, was appointed to represent the Association on that Committee.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

A letter from the Secretary of the Parent P. A. enclosing the draft regulations of the Shot-Hole Borer Ordinance was received, and the regulations were placed on the table for members to read.

RINDERPEST.

A letter, dated June 24th, from the G.A. of the C.P. was read, notifying that rinderpest had broken out at Hatton, there being six cases up to date.

FOR IRISHMEN.

The CHAIRMAN said he had received a letter from Mr. Traill asking him to circulate some handbills with regard to the Irish Association, with a view to ascertaining whether there were any Irishmen in the district who had not joined the Association.

BADULLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Badulla Planters' Association was held in the Old Town Hall, Badulla, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 27th, preceded by a Committee meeting at 9 a.m.

The Chairman, Mr. Reg. Gatehouse, presided, and those present at the general meeting were:—Messrs. T. G. Elliott, James Duncan, J. W. Scott, Robt. Stewart, W. J. Forbes, A. E. Peter, H. St. G. Carey, C. W. Beattie, K. Sentance Smith, C. F. Way, H. W. Waters, C. F. Mills, H. Walter, A. I. Jainu Deen, H. G. Cornish, H. Beling, L. Archdale, E. P. Andrews, C. J. Adamthwaite, A. E. Ogilvy, Jack Rae, A. Anderson (visitor), R. H. St. C. Harrison, N. F. Palmer, R. B. Jamieson, C. W. Murland, W. G. B. Dickson, R. McDonald Sutor, J. W. Balfour Paul, G. L. H. Doudney, Bernard Strachan (Hony. Secy., Passara P. A.) and Wilfred Rettie (Hony. Secy.):—

The notice convening the meeting was read. The minutes of last meeting were accepted as read and confirmed.

The bi-annual report on the Badulla Hospital was read and discussed.

The CHAIRMAN considered that an effort should be made to provide the Planters' Ward with the necessities recommended by the hospital visitors, and invited those present to subscribe. The appeal was literally responded to.

Mr. ELLIOTT, seconded by Mr. A. I. Jainu Deen, proposed that Rs. 50 be voted from the Association's funds.—Carried.

It was also decided to circulate the subscription list amongst those not present at the meeting.

SALE OF CROWN LAND.

Read letter from the Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon, covering a resolution, passed at a Committee meeting of the Planters' Association, held on May 8th: "That this Committee is of opinion that land sold by Government should be handed over to the purchaser without any counter claimant being at the time in physical occupation of any portion thereof."

A subsequent letter stating that the question raised in this resolution would be referred to the Rural Member in Council was also submitted.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that he had seen and discussed the matter with the Rural Member in Kandy, and the latter informed him that Government was considering the question of guaranteeing that land should be unencumbered at the time of purchase.

THEFTS OF TEA AND RUBBER PLANTS.

The Hon. SECRETARY drew attention to the fact that a draft Ordinance, embodying this important matter, had been published in the "Government Gazette" of May 29th, which members had no doubt seen.

The Hon. SECRETARY stated that the resolution regarding reservations for paths, minor roads and streams, put on Crown land, passed at the last meeting of the Association, had received the strong support of 18 Associations in the

Island. The Parent Association would now be asked to take the matter up.

The Hon. SECRETARY announced that in consequence of complaints made by passengers travelling by the Government motor mail service from Batticaloa to Bandarawella, who had expressed annoyance at the prolonged wait in Badulla, Government had decided to postpone the hour of departure from Batticaloa by one hour on the recommendation of the Association.

Read letter from the Chairman, Provincial Road Committee, regarding the payment of road tax.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the tax should be paid by Indian labourers working as domestic servants, clerks, conductors, Kanakapulles, engine-drivers, chauffeurs, carpenters, masons, etc. This was not generally known. He asked members to assist the Chairman, P. R. C., in the matter, by observing the conditions laid down by the Ordinance.

CONNECTING ROAD WANTED.

Read letter from the Uda Pussellawa P. A., embodying the following resolution:—"That this Association strongly supports the proposal to connect the St. Margarets-Kirklees Road with Welimada; and asks for the support of the Badulla and Nuwara Eliya Associations, as it would be an alternative route between Badulla and Nuwara Eliya at any time the Wilson's Bungalow Road should be unusable."

Mr. ELLIOTT expressed the opinion that the road would be of little use to the Badulla District, but as connecting roads were advisable, he proposed the resolution be supported.

Mr. DUNCAN considered the money might be devoted to a better purpose and opposed the resolution.

Seven members voted for and seven against.

The CHAIRMAN's casting vote being in favour of the resolution, it was supported.

JAVA RUBBER EXHIBITION.

Read letter from the Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon, stating that Dr. Lieftinck, Secretary-General of the Rubber Exhibition to be held in Java, had expressed the desire of the Government of Java that a delegate should be sent from the Planters' Association to the Exhibition and inviting planters to forward exhibits.

The Hon. SECRETARY stated that he had also received a letter and pamphlets on this matter from Mr. Waters, who would perhaps explain the nature of exhibits, etc.

Mr. WATERS said he had received a communication from Dr. Lieftinck asking for exhibits from Uva, as one of the hill rubber-producing districts. He explained what was required and offered to send pamphlets to any member interested.

The Hon. SECRETARY suggested members should apply for the necessary information regarding exhibits, to Mr. Waters direct, to which the latter acquiesced.

It was decided to support the proposal to send a delegate to the Exhibition from Ceylon.

S. P. C. A.

Read letter from the Hon. Secretary, S. P. C. A., asking for a donation to the Society's funds and requesting permission to enrol the Association as a member.

Funds not being available, it was decided to let the matter stand over.

Samples of rice, received from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth, were passed round for inspection.

INCREASED REVENUE OF THE PROVINCE.

The HON. SECRETARY stated that he had received a copy of the Government Agent's Administration Report on the Province for 1912-13.

A large increase was shown in the revenue from arrack, rum and toddy taverns, due to increased rent.

A large increase was also noticeable in the amount realised on land sales, the average price having risen from Rs. 26.45 per acre in 1912, to Rs. 43.78 per acre in 1913.

SMALL-POX OUTBREAK.

Mr. BEATTIE proposed the following resolution:—

"To draw attention to the outbreak of small-pox in the district and to call for papers."

Before speaking to his resolution, Mr. BEATTIE asked if the Hon. Secretary would be good enough to read any circulars he had received in connection with the outbreak.

The HON. SECRETARY stated that he had been notified of an outbreak in Passara town on June 1st and 2nd; and of a case in Badulla, one in Moneragalla, two at Lunugalla and thirty-one in Passara, on the 11th instant.

Mr. BEATTIE understood there had been an outbreak on Nahavilla estate prior to this, and was strongly of the opinion that either Government or the Association should have circularised members that such an outbreak was a serious matter and, in the interests of all, members should receive immediate intimation of it.

The HON. SECRETARY expressed himself as in accord with Mr. Beattie. He should explain that through an unfortunate mistake he had received no notice of the Nahavilla outbreak, either from the Government Agent or the Medical Authorities. He received information of the Passara outbreak and simultaneously a notice appeared in the local Press. He had circularised members of the outbreak in Badulla town. Hitherto it had not been the duty of the Association to inform members, and circularising in each case of an outbreak of this nature would entail much additional work at the expense of the Association. The previous arrangement was that the Government Agent should notify the Hon. Secretary or Chairman, and those in the immediate vicinity of an outbreak, and it would be well to clearly define the Secretary's position in the matter. He considered that both in the interests of the general public and of the Planting Community, a public notice should be circulated.

The CHAIRMAN said the task of circulating members on each occasion of an outbreak would throw a great deal of extra work on the Association. In addition to this, the

delay consequent on the information passing through third party would be considerable, whereas it was of the utmost importance that the news of these epidemics should become public property at once. He did not think too much should be made of the Government's omission to notify the Nahavilla outbreak. The Government Agent and the Provincial Surgeon were to be highly commended for the prompt, energetic and efficient manner in which they had dealt with the various outbreaks. Every precaution had been taken in each case.

Mr. DUNCAN, seconded by Mr. BEATTIE, proposed "That it be suggested that in future cases of epidemic diseases be notified by the Provincial Surgeon to all Superintendents of estates, and that the Association's appreciation of the manner in which the outbreaks had been handled be conveyed to the Provincial Surgeon."—Carried.

LIQUID FUEL.

Mr. BEATTIE proposed: "That this Association begs to draw the attention of the General Manager of the Railway to the very serious inconvenience and loss to which the district in general has been put, by the shortage of liquid fuel at Bandarawella." Mr. BEATTIE, in speaking to his resolution, said that the conditions prevailing in the district regarding liquid fuel supplies revealed a most serious state of affairs. He personally had been put to the greatest inconvenience on many occasions, and indeed had had the greatest difficulty in keeping his factory running. Moreover, those concerned appeared to treat the matter with unruffled equanimity and things were going from bad to worse. Representations to the proper quarter appeared to affect nothing. He understood six tank waggons were to be added in September. This number was clearly inadequate and could not be expected to cope with the present and even increasing demand. Other members had no doubt gone through similar experiences to himself, and he urged the meeting to strongly support his resolution.

The HON. SECRETARY said there was no tenable excuse for the present conditions ruling in the Province. The agitation had now lasted over nine months. Other districts were in a like predicament. A few figures would enlighten members and serve to demonstrate the seriousness of the position. A circular asking for accurate figures to show the probable consumption for the next two years, had been sent round. The Passara and Haputale P.A.'s had also been asked to collect similar figures. At present there were only eleven tank waggons on the main line to supply twelve installations. Two installations would be added by the end of the year. Receipts at Bandarawella averaged 28,000 gallons per mensem. Without eleven estates on the register of the Association, who had not yet sent in returns, and apart from Passara and Madulsima, who were also supplied by this installation, over 30,000 gallons a month would be required in 1915. This probably meant that the consumption would be doubled. Some 333,000 gallons had passed through the Bandarawella installation in 1913. Three-quarters of the estates in the Badulla District alone would require 360,000 in 1915 apart from

Passara and Madulsima.* He understood only one of the six new tank waggons would be available for Bandarawella, which in view of these figures was manifestly absurd.—

"TEA INDUSTRY BEING IMPERILLED."

Mr. DUNCAN had pleasure in supporting Mr. Beattie, but considered his resolution was not couched in sufficiently strong terms. The present conditions reflected the gravest discredit on the authorities. Such dilatoriness and inability to gauge the situation were to be severely condemned. Many of them were almost solely dependent on liquid fuel to work their factories, and he considered the prosperity of the tea industry, the most important in the island, was being imperilled. In his particular case, but for a steam engine, which had not been in use for some years, and a small stock of firewood, his factory, with an output of between 700,000 and 800,000 lbs., would have been shut down.

Mr. CORNISH stated that he only used ten gallons of liquid fuel per diem, but had been unable to obtain even that quantity. But for the courtesy of neighbours, work in his factory would have been suspended.

The CHAIRMAN entirely agreed with the views set forth and called for the strong support of the meeting to Mr. Beattie's resolution. The Hon. Secretary was collecting figures which would indicate their needs in the future, and if these were to be met, the matter should be handled with the utmost promptitude and laid before the authorities. He proposed the matter be referred at once to the Committee of the Combined Uva Associations and finally to the Parent P.A. They could not afford to delay.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER SCHEME.

The CHAIRMAN said he had interviewed firms with large interests in Uva and the scheme had been received with sympathy; and he thought that generally speaking it would be supported. It was impossible to gauge the amount that would be raised until estates had written to their agents and proprietors. A copy of the scheme would be sent to members for their information.

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

WILFRID RETTIE,
Hon. Secretary.

SABARAGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

It was at a general meeting of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association held at the Wace Memorial Hall, Ratnapura, on Saturday, 4th July, that the first was publicly heard of an admirable suggestion for assisting the working of the Excise Department, and the honour of introducing it fell to the lot of the zealous Honorary Secretary, Mr. E. C. Villiers. The meeting received the suggestions put forward with approval and the scheme will now be submitted to the Parent Association at Kandy for its approval.

THE MEETING.

Mr. Geo. Brown occupied the chair and the others present were:—Messrs. H. G. Greig, P. S. Bridge, R. L. Holland, J. Hawke, A. D. Sly, J. J. Hoare, W. H. Winthrop, D. G. Macdonald, E. Maberley Byrde, J. Stogden, R. S. Dalgetty, J. L. Mackie, W. G. Berry, Douglas Mc D. Berry, John Patterson, R. Mallaby, W. H. Attfield, R. de V. Godfray, E. Reilly, R. Schofield, C. E. Williams, E. C. Hawkins, Geo. Hawkins, A. W. L. Turner, K. R. Maitland, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. C. Villiers.

THE EXECUTION OF WARRANTS.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Mr. A. D. Sly, asking that a resolution be passed to the effect that "Government be asked to appoint a resident fiscal's marshal and two peons at Balangoda, so that the execution of warrants for bolted coolies may be expedited." At the present time it took from three to four months to get the same done by the fiscal's peon at Ratnapura.

Mr. SLY, speaking to his letter, said they all knew their late D. J. absolutely refused in any case whatsoever to allow a police sergeant to execute a warrant for bolted coolies, and he thought their present D. J. was of the same mind. To get over the difficulty the best thing was to do as his resolution asked.

The CHAIRMAN said it was rather an important matter. He knew some people had been inconvenienced, and he could see no reasons against Mr. Sly's suggestion.

Mr. WINTHROP seconded the motion, which was carried.

ITINERATING POLICE MAGISTRATE.

A letter was read from the Government Agent Sabaragamuwa Province, stating that the question of appointment of an I.P.M. for Ratnapura was still under consideration.

SURVEYS.

The Hon. SECRETARY said he had written the Land Settlement and Survey Departments asking if, owing to the speedy opening up of the province, they could not see their way to considerably add to the staffs engaged on survey and land settlement and if it was not possible for work to be started also from the Balangoda end of the province forthwith to prevent the enormous delay that must take place if work in the other districts was to be completed first.

The Surveyor-General replied that he was addressing Government on the subject and mentioned there were now 30 surveyors and two Assistant Superintendents in the province, and he much regretted he could see no hope of increasing the staff at present.

The Land Settlement Department said it was not possible, with the present staff, to increase the number of settlement officers working in Sabaragamuwa.

The Hon. Secretary then wrote to the Colonial Secretary, asking if he did not think an increase in the number of officers might be made, and a party started at the Halpe end of the province, at once, instead of waiting till all the other parts of the province were finished. He (the Hon

Secretary) understood that with the present staff it was impossible to go quicker on the part they were now doing, far less start another survey at this end. Might he suggest, having in view the rapid development of this part of the country, that the staff be added to sufficiently to make this quicker survey and settlement possible.

Only an acknowledgment was received of that letter.

The Surveyor-General on June 9th sent a further letter, forwarding a diagram of the Ratnapura district showing roughly the area already surveyed—coloured red—and that under survey and proposed to be surveyed—coloured blue. He would be obliged if the Association would mark on it the area they deemed of importance with regard to further survey operations in the future.

On the same subject the Committee of the Balangoda section of the P.A. resolved "That the Balangoda section of the Sabaragamuwa P.A. wish to endorse the resolution of the Sabaragamuwa P.A. in connection with surveys, and, in the event of Government being unable to meet with this request, that attention be promptly given to the application of surveys and settlement of particular tracts of land."

The HON. SECRETARY said he had also received a letter from the Balangoda branch of the Sabaragamuwa P.A., and the following proposal was brought forward: "In reply to the Surveyor-General's letter it be left to the Chairman of this Association to mark a district in Balangoda area for a survey in the near future, provided that this will not interfere with the survey work in other parts of the province."

The CHAIRMAN said he hoped that would be passed unanimously. It would be very difficult for everyone to choose a portion of the land—they would probably choose the whole of the province between them. As the survey people were already at Pelmadulla, the next important claim was Balangoda. At any rate, that resolution was a decisive thing to go before Government and he proposed it.

The HON. SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was unanimously passed.

THE EXCISE SCHEME.

THE HON. SECRETARY'S PRAISEWORTHY SUGGESTION.

Previous to the meeting, the Hon. Secretary had sent out the following circular to the members of the Association upon his suggestions re the Excise Scheme.

At a Committee meeting held at Kandy, on the 8th of May, certain questions arose on the subject of the Excise Ordinance. There are some who will say that the Ordinance is bad from start to finish, but the majority will agree that with some slight alterations this Ordinance could be made all that could be desired, and it is with this object in view that this proposal is brought forward, and your support is asked for.

The general tenor of this proposal is to obtain a better supervision of taverns, a greater check on those employed, and to instil all members of the public with a keenness to help carry out the spirit of the Ordinance.

The proposal, which is briefly explained, is as follows:—

"That Government be asked whether some improved method of inspection cannot be instituted, and to order, under Section 31 sub-Section 2, para L. sub-para. 1. that wherever possible, in Planting Districts,

taverns shall be situated near to or even on European owned land, and to appoint, under Section 7 sub-Section C and E, and Section 31 sub-Section 2, para L. sub-para. 5, 6, 7, and 8, Hon. Officers to perform acts and duties mentioned in Sections 33, 34 and 42 (modified) and 45 of Ordinance No. 8 of 1912.

Now in support of this resolution as far as it refers to the need for better supervision of taverns, to prove that there is such a need, we have the Excise Commissioner's report, in which he says:— "The force of inspectors is still too small, and it should be steadily added to." Again, "The area to be watched and controlled by each inspector was in almost every instance greater than one man could properly work, and the charges of the superior officers were so extensive that the close and detailed supervision of the subordinates' action, so necessary for honest and efficient excise working, could not be fully given."

In support of this resolution as far as it refers to the situation of taverns, at the present time a planter has no power of check on the conduct of taverns, even regarding his coolies, but if they were put near to or even on European owned land, the Superintendent would command the respect of the tavern keeper and have some control in the way it was managed. It may be urged at this point that many companies and proprietors will object to their land being given up for this purpose. In refutation of this, it must be pointed out that they could charge a reasonable rent which would amply compensate them for any inconvenience they incurred, and the improvement in conditions, if this control is given, would repay them over and over again. It is understood also that this scheme meets with the entire approval of the authorities. In support of this resolution, inasmuch as it refers to the appointment of Honorary Officers, it is suggested that in planting districts taverns near to one another should be grouped together, this grouping being subject to the convenience of the estate or estates near to which they are situated, and that the Hon. Officer should be given certain powers over their particular taverns, under the sections of the Ordinance referred to in the resolution which will be detailed in a moment. It must be noted that this grouping will not necessarily entail moving any of the existing taverns, nor adding to their number. The fact of these powers being given to members of the planting community is likely to instil more interest and enthusiasm among them for the carrying out of the spirit of the law for the common good. It also places the superintendent of an estate in direct touch with one of the greatest sources of his troubles. It would be an inestimable help to Government, for it will be seen from the Excise Commissioner's report that it is impossible to appoint sufficient officers to inspect taverns, and perform their duties satisfactorily, and to prevent constant malpractices, to say nothing of the enormous expense the appointment of a sufficiency of officers would entail, and the risk of unreliable people being put in this position. The cost of this scheme to Government would be absolutely nil: it can but be tried, and should it fail no one is any the worse. Should it succeed, conditions would be changed for the better. In support of the resolution as a whole, there is no doubt it will reduce, somewhat, the total consumption of intoxicating liquor on the following grounds:—

1. Better supervision. Inspection as it is even now has already checked the increase in consumption, which went up only 7.5 per cent. in 1913 as against 16.6 per cent. in 1912.

2. That whereas now, many of our labour forces have to travel 4 or 5 miles to get to the nearest tavern, the probability is that, in spite of supervision as at present carried out, more than is wise—if not more than is legal—is carried back to the estate. When taverns are situated upon the estate itself (as will be the case wherever possible) the cooly will go down after 4 p.m., or at any time out of work hours, and will be able to obtain his drink, and return to his line which will not be too far away. He will, therefore, not have the need to carry back vast stores to keep for future occasions.

Another point which is far more important is that it will abolish almost, if not entirely, illicit sales, for it is obvious that where Ramasamy can obtain the pure liquor at a legalized place, quite close, he is not going to purchase adulterated liquor from his neighbour, Meenatchie.

It may be urged that this reduction in the quantity of liquor sold will reduce the excise revenue. This will not be the case on the following grounds:—Under the present arrangement there is a very large amount of bottle sales. This will be reduced considerably in favour of glass sales and, whereas, the average price per gallon by bottle sales is Rs. 8; by glass sales the average price is Rs. 9.60. Thus, of course, the profit per gallon rises considerably, and, therefore, the tavern rent should become, if anything, enhanced in value which will make for an increase in the Excise revenue.

THE QUESTION OF POWERS.

Now to pass from the reasons for supporting the resolution to suggest what power should be vested in the Hon. Officers. You will note in the resolution the words:—"to perform acts and duties mentioned in Sections 32, 34 and 42 (modified) and 45a." Taking these in their order, should these Hon. Officers be appointed and given the power referred to:—By Section 32, he would be enabled to enter and inspect at any time while it is open, any place in which an excisable article is bottled or kept for sale. Section 34 enables them to arrest, without warrant, persons found committing offences punishable under Sections 43 and 44, that is to say, wrongfully tapping, distilling, manufacturing, or selling or possessing excisable articles wrongfully come by, and may search any person whom he may, reasonably, suspect to have excisable articles upon them. This may be somewhat too drastic for a layman, and in place of the words: "arrest without warrant, the words, "lay a charge against," might be substituted: thus, Section 34 will enable the Hon. Officer to lay a charge against persons as referred to above, i.e., wrongfully tapping, etc.

By Section 42, he would be empowered to order that any tavern should be closed for such time as he may think necessary for the public peace, and if any riot or unlawful assembly is apprehended or occurs he would be entitled to keep close the tavern for such period as he might deem necessary. This again gives the layman, perhaps, rather fuller powers than is necessary, and a modification which is referred to in a moment might be added.

By Section 45a, he would be enabled to lay a charge against any license holder who fails to produce such license or permit, on demand—a very necessary clause—as only too often when a license has lapsed the tavern is still open.

Now referring back Section 42, i.e., the closing of taverns and its somewhat arbitrary powers, it must be borne in mind that there are in certain planting districts, a number of very bigoted individuals who would, had they an opportunity, instantly close all taverns. These people are generally the first to squeal when their own rights are, in any way interfered with, yet they would deprive the cooly, and not only the cooly, the villager of what, in moderation, is the right of every man, to have a drink when he wants one, and it is to prevent these bigoted individuals from unjustly using the power given them, and closing taverns without proper cause, that a clause somewhat on the following lines might be added:—

"In the following cases only may the Hon. Officer summarily use his power.

1. In the event of a tavern being open without a license.
2. A riot taking place at, or in the vicinity of, a tavern.

In all cases where the Hon. Officer uses this power, he must immediately make report to the Excise Superintendent for his district, who shall, instantly make enquiry into the matter, and in all other cases where the Hon. Officer wishes to use his power, i.e., closing of taverns permission must be first obtained from the Excise Superintendent.

Once more, the resolution brought forward is:—

"That Government be asked whether some improved method of inspecting taverns cannot be instituted and to order under Section 31, sub-Section 2, para. 2, sub-para. 1, that wherever possible in planting districts, taverns shall be situated near to, or even on European owned land, and to appoint, under Section 7, sub-Section C. and E. and Section 31, sub-Section 2, para. 1, sub-para. 5, 6, 7 and 8, Hon. Officers to perform acts and duties mentioned in Sections 32, 34 and 42 (modified), and 45a, of Ordinance 8 of 1912."

All are asked to give their strong support to this, for are we not permitted by Government to advise, and given certain powers to report on our hospitals, though we are neither medical men nor experts. How much more then should we be allowed to have a bigger say than at present on the subject of liquor, for after all, on this subject, what planter is other than an expert?

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS.

The CHAIRMAN said they would have a resolution read to them by Mr. Villiers and a draft of alterations he proposed to the Excise Scheme. They wished to approach the Parent Association to get their help to approach Government to establish Excise visitors or arrack and toddy tavern visitors, much on the same lines as the Hospital Visitors. Although they knew from Mr. Horsburgh's report that the top of the tree in the department was quite efficient, yet there were certain inefficiencies at the bottom of the tree, chiefly with regard to the Excise Inspectors. There probably were not enough of them, they were not sufficiently under control and they could not be with the machinery as it stood at present. They would ask the Parent Association to send that resolution to the Government in whatever form they liked in order to enable planters to exercise a certain amount of supervision. They had defined the terms of the supervision. It was not that they wanted a tremendous power; they did not, but they wanted a certain amount, but chiefly *moral* power to prevent small delinquencies that were now, they knew, going on and that certainly caused a certain amount of trouble among estate coolies. They wished to stop such delinquencies as serving drunken people, adulteration and things of that sort. He now called upon Mr. Villiers to speak to his resolution. (Applause.)

MR. VILLIERS SPEAKS TO HIS RESOLUTION.

The Hon. Secretary, after reading the resolution already referred to, went on to say. You have all been circularised on this subject and I do not propose to go over the whole question again, but I have to inform you that I have altered para 5. Now you will remember in para 5 the Hon. Officer took on certain liabilities. These penal clauses have been completely deleted, but except for this the resolution stands and I hope you will support it in that form. For the benefit of those who have not read it or had time to go into the question, I will, with your leave, just touch lightly on the main points of the resolution. Firstly, that Government be asked whether some improved method of inspection of taverns cannot be instituted. That there is such a need the Excise Commissioner's report shows, and also on account of the vast amount of bribery that is going on. A letter I received yesterday from an unimpeachable source hears

this out. At the same time, while pointing out how bad the present supervision is, I wish to strongly mention that the Excise Officials can in no way be blamed.

Their work, unaided, is far too great for proper supervision, and funds will not permit a sufficient increase, even if the material could be found, which is doubtful. Now as regards the situation of the taverns:—"That Government be asked to order that wherever possible, in Planting Districts, taverns shall be situated near to or even on European land." The chief points in favour of this are five: 1, checking coolies' drinking; 2, checking tavern keepers; 3, stopping illicit sales; 4, attaining the primary object for which the taverns were instituted; and 5, making supervision more easy.

Now, taking these points in order; 1, checking coolies. It is obvious that when the Dorai may pass at any moment the cooly will not drink to excess, at any rate. As regards 2, the tavern keeper will also be very chary of overstepping the strictly legal bounds. With respect to 3, stopping illicit sales—when the taverns are situated as desired in the resolution there will be no need for carrying back supplies to the lines as there would be no sale, except a few credit sales, as any cash dealing would naturally be done at the tavern, where the cooly can be sure of getting undiluted spirit, very different to what would be got in the lines. A letter I had received from one who has gone fully into the matter said this power will act as a tremendous check on illicit sales. Respecting number 4, we all know that the Singhalese are not inherently drinkers, they have their bouts on perunals, but as a rule they are very moderate. A drunken Sinhalese is like a dead donkey—(laughter) not often seen, whereas the Tamil is inherently a drinker and he will remain drunk if he gets the chance—(laughter). It is for those people that all these taverns have been instituted and to try to help those people. My argument is to bring the taverns nearer to them.

Now, as to No. 5, making supervision more easy. It stands to reason that if planters are going to be sufficiently public spirited to undertake this honorary work every help must be given them. If taverns are far away it either means they are not supervised, or the Hon. Officer is put to a great deal of inconvenience, whereas, if they are close, it is a daily occurrence for the superintendent on his round to pass the place, and once or twice in a period, he can go in and inspect the tavern. I had an interview with the Excise Commissioner the other day and he told me my ideas were more or less sound. As to the actual duties that will be entailed on the Hon. Officers time alone will show what will be necessary, but a little handbook can be got out detailing the duties, which he said he will be only too pleased to see done.

Now as to point 3—Hon. Officers.—"That Government be asked to appoint Hon. Officers to perform certain duties mentioned in the Ordinance." This really hinges on points 1 and 2—supervision and situation. If Hon. Officers are appointed, supervision will be automatically improved and the benefits mentioned under the heading of situation will not only be obtained but maintained. Further it will make

superintendents keen on a subject that they now view with apathy or even in certain cases with antipathy, and lastly it will be an enormous help to Government, and after all why should we not help Government. If this is passed it will entail better supervision, a reduction of consumption, but not of revenue, and it will almost abolish illicit sales, and when these have been obtained a big stride will have been made towards a solution of one of the planters' greatest difficulties—the question of drink among his labour. (Applause.)

Mr. GREIG wanted to know if the Hon. Secretary had ever had a tavern on his estate. He had and he did not want another.

The CHAIRMAN said surely it would be very much better to have the powers of supervision than having no powers at all.

Mr. GREIG asked where those powers began and when did they finish.

The HON. SECRETARY said Mr. Greig must look at the Ordinance.

Mr. BYRDE asked if it was necessary to have the second clause.

The CHAIRMAN: I think it is absolutely necessary.

Mr. BYRDE said he supported Mr. Greig; they did not want the taverns on the estate.

The HON. SECRETARY said if they had any objection to the tavern being on the estate Government would not for an instant compel them to have it, even though the thing became law. When it became law he contended that the very gentlemen who did not wish the tavern on the estate would clamour for it when they were given supervisory powers. Taverns had come to stay and they must make the best of it and try to get them under their control. At the present moment, with the tavern far away, they had no control.

Mr. SLY seconded the resolution. The Hon. Secretary had been very explicit over the matter and had taken a great deal of trouble and good advice. The idea of asking Government to appoint them Hon. Officers was really to help the planters. They needed those powers to look after their own coolies. (Applause.) It would be a great mistake to delete that part of the resolution as Mr. Byrde wished.

Mr. BYRDE asked if it was possible to make the licences for taverns on the estates only for the purpose of liquor drunk on the premises.

The HON. SECRETARY said that question had come before him, with many such like recommendations, but they were all of a subsidiary nature. All those points could be raised later on. Though the scheme might be in a somewhat crude form, he asked them not to press those matters, but let the scheme go through. When it was under discussion by sub-Committee, as it would be, all those little points could be brought up. Any suggestions then brought forward would be thoroughly discussed.

The CHAIRMAN said he would like to point out that that law would entail no hardship on superintendents.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

PROPOSED CLOSING OF FOREIGN LIQUOR TAVERNS.

A notice was read from the G.A. stating it was proposed to close the following foreign liquor taverns:—Tavern No. 7, in house No. 72, Main Street, Ratnapura, licensee P. W. Dias & Co.; Tavern No. 9, house No. 202, Main Street, Ratnapura, licensee C. S. Gomez & Co.; Tavern license No. 6, at Gallella, licensee K. Don Hendrick Appuhamy. He was prepared to receive any verbal or written representation against the closings up to July 25th.

The CHAIRMAN said he had already written strongly against the closing of the Gallella tavern without further consultation with the planters.

ROADS.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following statement from the G.A., of temporary bridges and structures, giving the permissible load on each:—

Hangamuwa (temporary) bridge, Kukul Korale road, 9th mile, permissible load 2 tons; Kuruwita bridge, Avisawella-Ratnapura road, 48th mile, permissible load 2 tons; Maha Oya Government bridge, Polgahawella-Kegalle road, 3rd mile, permissible load, 10 persons. Vehicles whether carrying maximum load or not are to cross these following bridges at a rate not exceeding 1 mile an hour: Hunuwela bridge, Pelmadulla-Halpe road, 73rd mile, permissible load, $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons; Opanayake bridge, Pelmadulla-Halpe road, 75th mile, permissible load $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons; Olugantota bridge, Pelmadulla-Halpe road, 83rd mile, permissible load $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons; Waloya bridge, Pelmadulla-Halpe road, 85th mile, permissible load, $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons; Belihuloya bridge, Pelmadulla-Halpe road 93rd mile permissible load, $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons; Kahawatte bridge, Pelmadulla-Delgoram road, 72nd mile, permissible load, $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons. Bridges at 58th, 59th, 60th, and 61st miles, Malwala ferry road permissible load 1 ton.—These bridges are unsafe and can only carry 1 ton at present.

The HON. SECRETARY said he had written Messrs. Carson & Co., as directed at the last meeting, about the Kukul Korale road, and the following was their reply:—

KUKUL-KORALE ROAD.

Australia Building,
Colombo, May 13th, 1914.
E. C. VILLIERS, Esq.,
Keesnagalla, Balangoda.

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter, the writer saw both the Hon. Mr. Chapman and Mr. Waddell on the subject of the above road. Though they were both very sympathetic they could hold out no hope that the road would be gone on with at present. The present Governor, as far as we can understand, has stopped all road extensions until the present roads in the Island have been broadened out sufficiently for motor traffic. This is unfortunate for us and those similarly situated, but we cannot help saying it is a good thing for the Island generally.

Yours faithfully,
CARSON & CO., LTD.,
LIONEL COX,
Director.

A letter dated May 13th from the Provincial Engineer, with reference to the same road, said: "My D.E. reports he has collected metal for its repairs and is about to start consolidating same."

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The HON. SECRETARY said he had one letter to read from the Director of Public Works, as follows:—

"More than two motor lorries can be put on the Ratnapura-Balangoda road if necessary; but, in view of the large amount of work in progress on the road, the number should be as restricted as possible. The Dela road has already been declared open for motor lorries. The Pelmadulla-Rakwana road can be opened as soon as the reconstruction of Kahawatta bridge, which is nearing completion is finished."

THE RAKWANA MAIL SUBSIDY.

With respect to Messrs. Pate & Sons' request to the P.M.G. for an additional subsidy of Rs. 3,000 per annum for the Rakwana mail service, the Hon. Secretary said the P.M.G. had replied to the firm that he had decided not to vary the terms of the present contract which expired on June 30th, 1915.

Mr. WINTHROP said there was nothing further they could do. They had got the motor coach to Rakwana and as long as they kept it they were not grumbling.

THE RAILWAY TO OPENAIKE.

The HON. SECRETARY reported that he had sent three letters to the Colonial Secretary, about the following resolution passed at the last meeting, and he had received no reply, only three acknowledgments; "That Government be asked whether the claims of all landowners for purchase and compensation in connection with the Dela road have in every case been satisfied; and if not, are the present delays in the acquisition of land and the unwillingness of landholders to allow the Pelmadulla extension to pass through their lands not directly attributable to this withholding of payments."

The CHAIRMAN said they should press for an answer at once.

Mr. BYRDE said he had reason to believe the matter was exercising the G.A. at present, and he was quite certain the matter had not been shelved.

Mr. BRIDGE: But after three months they should give us an answer. (Hear, hear.)

It was agreed the Hon. Secretary should write a strong letter expressing regret at receiving no answer.

HOSPITALS.

It was announced that Mr. Brown had been elected to serve on the Balangoda Committee as hospital visitor in place of Mr. A. Tuckniss.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST BALANGODA HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN read the following letter from Mr. E. C. Villiers:—

I have as Hospital visitor to bring to your notice the following: viz, although I had a letter from the D.M.O. stating the number of improvements it was hoped might be carried out, not one thing has been even started except the removal of caddies from the cart road at the turn off. There is a general slackness in keeping the place in repair, the only two handles I touched were broken and fell off, the repair to which could have been effected by the orderly in 2 minutes; but how can we expect the minor officials to deal with matters of this sort when the head officials allow the

following. About April 25th the visiting Apothecary was sent for to go to Pehnadulla, which left an already insufficient staff one shorter. This was allowed to go on till approximately May 1st when a new man was sent to take the place of the Resident Apothecary who was switched off to do the visiting apothecary's duties. This new man was apparently totally inexperienced and had everything to learn. This state of things went on till May 23rd when he was called off to Imbilipitiya again leaving the staff short. Up to the time of my visit nothing had been done in spite of telegrams from the D.M.O., explaining the position. The climax was reached, however, when on the 1st I wrote asking the D.M.O. to come to my estate, and was informed that he was very busy, as he was alone! even his Resident-cum-Visiting Apothecary having been called out to a far away place, so it devolved upon the only remaining member of the staff to be Dispenser, Apothecary, Clerk, etc., and incidentally, in his spare time, D.M.O. This sort of thing really should not be tolerated and a proper staff must be provided including most important of all, a qualified Assistant D.M.O. One other point of interest I think the present mortuary deemed unfit for use for its original purpose owing to its dilapidated condition is to be turned into a Maternity ward. I leave it to your Committee to comment on.

The CHAIRMAN said that was a pretty bad state of things.

The Hon. SECRETARY said the D.M.O. was a good, conscientious man and had worked very ably and thoroughly well. If he was given proper help there would be no trouble at all.

Mr. GREIG proposed the report be sent to the P.C.M.O. and his speedy attention called to it, as the present state of affairs were discreditable to the community.

Mr. BRIDGE seconded and it was carried.

COOLIES BOLTING FROM THE HOSPITAL.

The Hon. SECRETARY said he had been informed verbally that there was a great prevalence for coolies to bolt from hospital. He had written letters to many people and the replies certainly pointed to a feeling that something should be done. He had received the following letter from Mr. Winthrop, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the Rakwana Committee.

In reply to your letter re the discharge of coolies from Hospital, I am glad to be able to state that we have had no trouble of this sort in Rakwana since our present D.M.O. came to the District. He always sends out a notice of removal three or four days before a cooly is to be discharged, and if someone is not sent to take over the cooly, he detains him in hospital and sends out a second notice. This method is no doubt the correct one, as it removes all danger of a cooly bolting between the Hospital and the Estate, and I think Government should be asked to impress on all D.M.O.'s the desirability of adhering to it.

Mr. WINTHROP proposed the following resolution: "That Government be asked to instruct medical officers in charge of district hospitals to always send notices of removal to superintendents of estates at least 5 days before discharging coolies from hospital. Should nobody be sent to receive the cooly a second notice to be sent and the cooly detained in hospital for a further two days at the estate's expense."

The Hon. SECRETARY said that half the trouble was due to the D. M. O. combining the work of all officials.

The motion was passed.

POST OFFICE AT DELA.

The Hon. SECRETARY said he had forwarded the following resolution to the P. M. G.: "That Government be

asked to provide a post and telegraph office at Dela, which is now a big centre. This would accommodate about 12,000 acres of tea and rubber estates, up the Weyganga Valley, as well as a very big population of natives, besides those employed on the estates," and his reply was "There will be a railway station at Dela, and until the amount of postal and telegraph work is gauged by that falling on the Railway Receiving Office and Telegraph Office, I shall not be in a position to recommend to Government the establishment of a separate postal and telegraph office at Dela.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following estates were elected as members of the Association:—Nonpareil, Dalveen and Horamula.

THANKS.

Following upon a letter from the Parent Association about Dr. Lieftinck, the representative of the Batavia Rubber Exhibition, being in Ceylon, the meeting unanimously passed a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Lieftinck (to be sent him by the Parent body) for his generous offer of the sale of the rubber exhibits.

ABSENT.

Messrs. Grant and Poyntz Roberts sent letters expressing regret at their inability to be present at the meeting.

DOCUMENTS TABLED.

The following documents were tabled: Letters from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., one *re* Medical Wants Ordinance, one *re* "Kuruvus" and the Administration Report of the Province.

FALSE DECLARATION BY COOLIES.

Mr. GREIG had drawn the attention of the Association to a false declaration made by some coolies who had left him, gone to the coast and came back to another estate stating their unliquidated liabilities were "nil." The matter was referred to the Colombo Police, who referred the superintendent of the on-taking estate to Ragama, who in turn referred him to the superintendent of the old estate as being the proper person to institute any proceedings.

The Sataragamuwa P. A. asked the help of the Parent P. A. in the matter and also wrote Mr. Drummond Hay who had a similar case. Mr. Hay replied in extenso and the parent body referred the matter to their legal advisers, who asked for further information.

The correspondence having been read,

Mr. GREIG did not seem to think it was any use proceeding further with the matter, and it was allowed to drop.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

KEGALLE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

An ordinary general meeting of the above Association was held in the rest-house, Kegalle, on Saturday, July 4th, preceded by a Committee meeting.

Present: The Chairman (Mr. Jackson Smale), Messrs. A. E. Barrs, A. A. Franklin, G. R. Massy, A. G. Bayley, W. Orlebar Wells, H. de Lisle Tupper, V. C. Lamb, D. E. Hamilton, H. G. Habgood, J. R. Thistle, J. S. Larken,

F. E. Pattison, Turton Sinclair, W. Hermon, T. G. Salmon, and H. C. Heynsbergh.

Visitors:—Messrs. E. I. Beech, J. Skene, and R. R. Oakley (Honorary Secretary.)

The notice convening the meeting was read and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

J. P., U. P. M.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. Lamb to the Chairman, asking that a Justice of the Peace and Unofficial Police Magistrate might be appointed for the Ambepussa District. In the letter Mr. Lamb said that crime in that District seemed to be on the increase, while the stealing of barbed wire and other petty thefts had become an epidemic. He thought that the villagers feared anyone holding a Government position, and that if a J. P., U. P. M. near at hand were appointed it would have a salutary effect.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had approached the Assistant Government Agent on the subject and that he was very willing to give the matter his support. He then called for nominations, and Mr. G. R. Massy, having been proposed and seconded, was duly elected pending the approval of Government.

FOREIGN LIQUOR LICENSES.

A circular notice received from the Assistant Government Agent, proposing the closing of certain foreign liquor taverns was read out.

The CHAIRMAN said that during the interval between the Committee meeting and the present meeting he had attended a meeting of the Excise Committee. It had been pointed out that Undugoda was the most convenient place where one could obtain refreshments between Kegalle and Ruwanwella, and he could definitely state that the license here was being retained. Of the remaining taverns two were to be closed and two remain.

JAVA RUBBER EXHIBITION.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Secretary of the Parent Association, asking their opinion on the matter of sending a delegate from the Ceylon Planters' Association to the forthcoming exhibition at Java and containing a generous offer from Dr. Lieftinck, the Secretary-General with regard to exhibits.

The meeting expressed its hearty approval of a delegate being sent and was unanimous in its opinion as to the District from which the delegate should be chosen. It was also decided that the Hon. Secretary should circularise members on the subject of exhibits.

S. P. C. A.

Letter from the Hon. Secretary of the S. P. C. A. soliciting a subscription from the Association was read. Mr. FRANKLIN proposed that a subscription be sent and suggested Rs. 25. The Hon. SECRETARY seconded and the proposal was carried.

MEDICAL WANTS ORDINANCE.

A notification from Government revoking Rule No. 44, and appendix D. of the Medical Wants Ordinance No. 9,

of 1912, and substituting a new rule was read and explained.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

MAIN ROAD.

KEGALLE TO BULATCHUPITIYA.—Referring to complaints made at the last meeting with regard to the dangerous corners on this road the CHAIRMAN said the District Engineer had begun to cut back the bank near the Mahopitiya turn off, but that nothing had yet been done to the corner near Morantota bridge, or to the dangerous rocks between the fifth and sixth mile posts from Kegalle. The District Engineer, however, had a great deal of work to cope with and with the approval of the meeting he did not suggest to put forward any formal motion at the present meeting.

MAHA OYA BRIDGE.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter dated May 17th, from the District Engineer, in which he stated that the delay in the completion of this bridge was largely due to non-delivery of iron-work by the railway authorities. He believed that ironwork for 5 spans had been delivered at the goods yard on or before the 30th March, but that it had not been received by him at Polgahawella until 1st May. This had now all been transported but would take two weeks to erect, thus completing 8 spans. The iron-work for the remaining two spans had not yet been received and so he was not in a position to state when the bridge would be open to traffic. The Hon. Secretary said that he had written direct to the Colonial Secretary asking that the matter might be enquired into, as the delay occasioned had caused much inconvenience in the District, but that he had only received an acknowledgment of the letter.

Mr. BARRS said the 8 spans had been completed but he did not think anything further had been done. He proposed that the Hon. Secretary should again write to the Colonial Secretary. This was carried.

COLOMBO-KANDY ROAD.

A letter from the Secretary of the Automobile Club of Ceylon was read, stating that he would be pleased to place on his agenda, for the next meeting, the bad state of this road and also the dangerous corner near Victoria Bridge.

Mr. SALMON said that a portion of the road out from Colombo had now been repaired. It was decided to let the matter stand on till after the next meeting of Automobile Club.

The matter of the corner at 37th mile post was again brought up.

Mr. BARRS said that he had recently motored past there, and as far as appearances went he was of the opinion that nothing had been done since the agitation began.

Mr. TUPPER said that the cheddy had been cut back but none of the bank proper, and that the kaddie had not been removed. Mr. Tupper also asked that the rock on the inside of the curve of the road near Ambanpitiya Factory be blasted and the road built up. The road here took

an S bend and the rock in its present state was a menace to traffic.

Mr. ORLEBAR WELLS complained of the state of the surface of the road between the 49th and 55th mile posts near Mawanella. He said that it was badly in want of metal and that advantage should be taken of the present weather.

It was proposed and carried that the Hon. Secretary write to the D. P. W. on all the above points.

MINOR ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN asked the members if they had anything to say on this subject.

The Hon. SECRETARY, said he would like to ask why a Superintendent of Minor Roads had not been appointed and when he was likely to be.

Mr. BARRS stated that a nomination had been sent into Government, but that so far no answer had been received. He could give no definite reason for the delay. As representative of the Association on the D. R. C., he would like the members to express their views.

ARANDARA-MORANTOTA.

The Hon. SECRETARY, referring to the Arandara-Morantota Road, said the work on it had fallen into a state of stagnation, that as far as he could tell nothing had been done on the road since a year last April, that both estates concerned had paid in their moieties for the year and now half the year had gone by.

Mr. PATTISON said he understood the contract had at last been given out to proceed with the work.

WARAKAPOLA-RUANWELLA.

Mr. LAMB said that the state of this road was appalling, and the surface for about 6 miles consisted of loose metal 3 feet deep. He said that his estate had not only subscribed towards the road, but that he himself had told them how to expend it—(applause)—but all to no purpose (more applause.) He said that the Assistant Government Agent himself after seeing the road condemned the work. The fault was due to the bad laying of foundation stones; in fact to all intents and purposes there was no foundation, but only metal laid on the surface.

Mr. BAYLEY asked if the money had been paid by the estate.

Mr. LAMB: Unfortunately yes, but it is not a motor road.

Mr. LAMB then went on to suggest that payment be withheld from the contractor until the road were put into a satisfactory condition.

The CHAIRMAN said he understood that the A. G. A. had given orders to contractors that foundation stores should be put in, and that he condemned this road.

USSAPITIYA-UTUMANKANDE.

Mr. BAYLEY said he had received permission from the D. R. C. to expend Rs. 300, on repairing this road and that it was to be finished by May. This, he said, was done, but no one had been to see it and testify to it, nor had he received the money; that the road would soon be as

bad as ever if it were not properly kept up. It was suggested that a special meeting of the D. R. C. be called and the following resolution be submitted to them:—“That this Association do write officially to their representative on the D. R. C., enumerating their grievances on the subject of payments and usage of estate moieties, unsatisfactorily used on the D. R. C. roads undermentioned:—Warakapola-Ruanwella, Nelundeniya-Dedegama, Hettimulla-Hatgampola, Ussapitiya-Utumankande, Morantota-Arandara.”—This was carried.

HOSPITALS.

The Hon. SECRETARY read out the following letter received from the P.C.M.O. in reply to the resolutions passed at the last meeting:—

Colombo, June 6th.

THE Hon. SECRETARY,
Kegalle Planters' Association,
Higgoda Estate, Undugoda.

P. C. M. O.'s LETTER.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th ultimo, and to inform you that nurses will be appointed to Kegalle when the quarters are taken over by me.

2. The District Medical Assistant, Kegalle, was appointed as a temporary measure; he has now gone to Undugoda hospital, where he will be employed. There are qualified apothecaries at Polgahawela, Rambukkana and Kadugannawa, who with the District Medical Officer at Undugoda will relieve the District Medical Officer, Kegalle, considerably.

3. Land is being acquired for use as a burial ground for the Undugoda Hospital, and as soon as I am put in possession of it by the Assistant Government Agent, Kegalle, the hospital will be opened for admission of indoor patients.

4. The removal of the dispensary of Nelundeniya to Dedegama was decided on by this office, and the Assistant Government Agent, Kegalle, because of floods.

5. It would seem to be too late this year to approach Government regarding a new dispensary at Ambepussa.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant.
A. PERRY,
P.C.M.O. and I.G.H.

The CHAIRMAN, referring to an Assistant Medical Officer for Kegalle, said it had been pointed out to him that even if the appointment of a D. M. O. at Undugoda were to relieve the D. M. O., Kegalle, on that side of the District, it would only be the case to a certain degree as most of the estates scheduled to Undugoda were on the Bulatohupitiya side. That the Medical Officer, Kegalle, was still the official doctor, who was liable to be called in to report on any case of death by violence or other extraordinary cause. That in this case the hospital at Kegalle would be left without any qualified medical officer, possibly for a matter of days.

It was proposed and seconded that the Hon. Secretary write again pressing the measure.—Carried.

AMBEPUSSA.

With regard to the dispensary at Nelundeniya having been removed to Dedegama on account of floods,

Mr. SALMON asked why he had seen coolies on that day lying on the road at Nelundeniya.

Mr. MASSY: The dispensary has not yet been removed.

Mr. SALMON: Oh, I thought it had been washed away.

A further comment was that the site at Dedegama was also subject to floods.

The HON. SECRETARY said he had understood Mr. Lamb, speaking at the previous meeting, had no objection to the removal of the dispensary to Dedegama provided one was sanctioned at Ambepussa; that he did not consider the P.C.M.O.'s letter quashed this proposal, but that nothing could be done until it had been included in next year's estimates.

Mr. LAMB asked what they were to do in the meantime, or at present they had to send to Kegalle for supplies.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that they should continue to agitate for a dispensary at Ambepussa, Warakapola for preference, but in the meantime write and ask that the existing one be better stocked.—Agreed to.

Mr. TUPPER said that, while on the subject of dispensaries, he would like to strongly protest against the delay in sending up supplies requisitioned from the Civil Medical Stores. He said that the delay was absolutely disgraceful; in some cases supplies did not arrive until four months after the time at which they had been requisitioned. That the Government passes measures for the treatment of the cooly and yet they cannot get the medicines. That it is a good father on the one hand and a prodigal on the other.

After the discussion it was proposed and seconded that the Secretary write a strong letter to the P.C.M.O. on the matter.—Carried.

ARANAYAKA.

A letter from the A.G.A. was read stating that the land for the site of this hospital is being acquired.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.

The CHAIRMAN said that he found that the appointment of a hospital visitor was only for one year. That Mr. Craib had been elected for the previous year, and on his going on leave Mr. P. F. Ondaatjie had with the approval of Government acted for him. That now Mr. Ondaatjie was in England, and so a new visitor for Kegalle was required. He proposed that Mr. Craib be re-elected. This was carried.

The HON. SECRETARY was requested to write to Government asking to sanction the appointment, and also that of Mr. Trevaldwyn (Undugoda), Mr. J. I. Jamieson, (Aranayaka), and Mr. V. C. Lamb for Nelundeniya dispensary.

POST OFFICE.

In reply to a letter received from Mr. Lamb, the Hon. Secretary read the following letter from the P.M.G. with regard to the proposed post office at Ambepussa.

Colombo, June 4th, 1914.

PROPOSED POST OFFICE AT AMBEPUSSA.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter of 9th April, 1914, I have the honour to inform you that Mr. Nugawela's building is unsatisfactory, and that I am at present negotiating for a building close to the railway station, and to state that I presume a site there will be almost as convenient to the planters using the office, as one near Mr. Nugawela's house would be, and it would certainly be more convenient for postal officers and the native community.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
T. WHITE for P.M.G.

Mr. LAMB said that the letter sounded very well from the point of view of the clique at and near Ambepussa Station and that it was of no benefit to the Planting Community who were the people who had started the agitation and done what had been done to acquire a suitable building. He said that the people at Ambepussa now had a receiving office, but that planters had to send, in many cases, 12 miles for their tappal.

Mr. MASSY said that there was a far greater native population at Warakapola than near Ambepussa Station and that that was the true centre of the Ambepussa District and not the Station. He proposed that the receiving office be continued at Ambepussa Station but that a post office be opened at Warakapola, and that the building in question be acquired until a more suitable one be found.

This motion was put to the meeting and carried.

Mr. BAYLEY proposed that a Post and Telegraph office should be opened at Mawanella. He said that already there were telegraph posts running from Mawanella to Kadugannawa, so that there would be no great difficulty. The Chairman said he thought they ought to carry the Post Office through at Ambepussa first and then agitate for one at Mawanella. In the meantime he asked Mr. Bayley to obtain figures of the acreage cultivated in the District and its population.

ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN.

The CHAIRMAN said that in view of the fact that he would be shortly leaving for England he felt that he must hand in his resignation and he proposed that Mr. Barrs be elected for the time being.

Mr. FRANKLIN seconded and the proposition was carried.

Mr. BARRS on taking the chair said that his first duty was a pleasure, that of proposing a most hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Smale for all he had done for the Association during his time of office. Mr. Smale had now been elected as Chairman on three consecutive occasions which was a fact that spoke for itself. He had shown himself both keen and able and had given up a very great deal of his time in the interests of the Association. He regretted very much the resignation of Mr. Smale as he was sure all the members did, but he was pleased that it was only occasioned through the departure of Mr. Smale for a thoroughly deserved holiday. He wished him all joy on that holiday and hoped, from his own personal point of view, and that

of the Association, that he would soon be welcomed back and be again eligible for the Chairmanship. He proposed a very hearty vote of thanks, which was carried amid loud applause.

Mr. SMALE thanked Mr. Barrs for his kind speech and said that what little he had been able to do he had done with the utmost pleasure, and that his thanks were due to the Hon. Secretaries who had not spared themselves in helping him.

Mr. BARRS now proposed Mr. Franklin as the new Chairman.

Mr. SMALE seconded, and the motion was carried with applause.

Mr. FRANKLIN thanked all present for the kind way in which they had received his election and said that he would do whatever he could to further the interests of the Association.

ELECTION OF MEMBER ON EXCISE COMMITTEE.

Through the resignation of Mr. Smale a place had become vacant on the Excise Committee.

Mr. SMALE proposed that the newly elected Chairman should carry on this office. This, being seconded and put to the vote, was agreed to.

RAILWAY.

The Hon. SECRETARY read a letter from the General Manager stating that a crane had now been erected at Polgahawela and was ready for use.

ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS.

A letter from the Ceylon Planters' Association was read on this subject.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

R. R. OAKLEY,
Honorary Secretary.

HAPUTALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting of the above Association was held at Haputale Resthouse on Wednesday, July 8th.

Present:—Messrs. William Gibson (Chairman), J. R. Bell, W. A. Wilson, S. B. Smith and A. Allen (Hon. Secretary).

Read letter from the Hon. Secretary, Kegalle Planters' Association, re the P. L. F. rules. After some discussion it was decided to support the resolution and that the Secretary be written to accordingly.

Further correspondence was left to be discussed at the General Meeting.

GENERAL MEETING.

A General Meeting of the above Association was held at Haputale Resthouse on Wednesday, 8th July, at 1-30 p.m. Members present were:—Messrs. William Gibson (Acting Chairman), J. R. Bell, W. A. Wilson, S. A.

Michels, A. Fellowes Gordon, A. C. Warren, C. F. Dowker, S. B. Smith, R. Smerdon, C. J. Bayley, J. W. McCloghlin and A. Allen (Hon. Secretary). Visitors:—Messrs. R. Mc. D. Sutor, J. D. Walker and J. D. Thomson.

The notice convening the meeting was read. The minutes of the last general meeting were taken as read and confirmed by the Chairman.

The bi-annual reports on Koslande and Haputale Hospitals were read.

RAILWAY AND LIQUID FUEL.

Mr. WILSON proposed, seconded by Mr. MICHELS "That the General Manager, C. G. R., be requested to put on more tank waggons as early as possible as the shortage of liquid fuel is causing considerable inconvenience."

It was proposed by Mr. BAYLEY and seconded by Mr. SMITH that the following resolution be adopted as an amendment "That the Planters' Association be asked to point out to the Government the great inconvenience and loss of money caused in the planting districts by the short delivery of liquid fuel and to request that sufficient tank waggons and other facilities be given to the Railway to enable the authorities to cope with the increasing demand for crude oil.

Mr. BAYLEY spoke very strongly on the subject, and the Hon. Secretary read letters of complaint.

Mr. BAYLEY's resolution was unanimously adopted, and the Hon. Secretary was requested to write to the Secretary, P. A., on the matter.

Mr. WILSON proposed, seconded by Mr. McCLOGHLIN, "That the General Manager be written about the delay in the loading and unloading of carts at Haputale Station." Inquiries had been made by the Hon. Secretary as to the number of coolies that were working at that work, and instead of eight coolies working there were only three.

It was resolved the Hon. Secretary do write the General Manager on the subject.

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

Mr. WILSON proposed, seconded by the Hon. SECRETARY, that some resolution be adopted as to the limit of registering of new coast coolies' debts.

It was proposed by Mr. BELL, seconded by Mr. BAYLEY, "That the matter be brought before the Secretary, P. L. F., and suggest that a definite limit should be made for the registering of coast coolies' debts."

The amendment was carried unanimously.

MEMBER ON BOARD OF HEALTH.

It was proposed by Mr. ALLEN and seconded by Mr. SMITH that Mr. C. J. Bayley do act in the place of Mr. Hyde, and that the Government Agent be notified.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Government Agent of Uva's Administration Report was laid on the table.

A letter from the Chairman, Local Board, re Bandarawela Cemetery was read.

It was resolved that the matter be left over until Mr. R. G. Coombe's return as he had collected a certain amount of money towards funds for erection of fencing.

A letter from the Secretary, P. A., re an experimental centre for Anchylostomiasis was read.

Mr. SMERDON wished the name of the estate he was in charge of should be sent in, and was informed by the Hon. Secretary that he do write the Secretary, P. A., personally.

A letter from the Secretary, P. A., re sending a delegate from the P. A. to Java was read. It was resolved that the matter be supported.

A letter from the Manager, Bank of Uva, re the proposal to start a branch of the bank at Bandarawela was read. Support being insufficient the matter was dropped.

Papers re Medical Wants Ordinance No. 9 of 1912, were circulated.

A letter from the Chairman, P. R. C. re payment of road tax for coolies, who are not actually engaged in, or in search of agricultural labour was read. The Hon. Secretary pointed out that the request was only reasonable and especially concerned this Association as they had sent complaints about the closing of resthouses. He also pointed out that the P. R. C. was a body entirely distinct from Government. It was unanimously adopted that the Chairman P. R. C., be written and thanked for pointing out the omission, and also that the Hon. Secretary do circulate members to the effect that road tax paid on such payments should be charged up to the coolie.

A letter from the Ratemahatmaya, Wellessa, re proposed Elephant Kraal was read.

A letter from the Government Agent, Uva, re Koslande liquor licenses was read, and it was resolved that the two licenses be kept on so as to put a stop to a monopoly.

A letter from the Government Agent re temporary bridges in the Badulla district was laid on the table.

A letter from the G. A. re a coolie named Muttusamy (tending small-pox coolies) who had bolted from Hunasgiri estate was read.

A letter from G. A. re Rameswaram pilgrimage was read.

A letter from the Sabaragamuwa P. A. re a better supervision over arrack taverns was read. It was proposed that the Association be supported in their scheme, and the Hon. Secretary do write to this effect.

A letter from Mr. Hall regretting his inability to attend was read.

Mr. Wills wrote tendering his resignation as Chairman, and also regretting he was unable to attend. It was unanimously agreed that Mr. Wills be asked to continue in the Chair until the new year.

A letter from the G. A. re appointment of member on Plant Pests Board in place of Mr. Hudson was read. It was proposed that Mr. Bayley do act and his name be sent to the Government Agent.

ELECTION OF HON. SECRETARY.

It was proposed by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Dowker that Mr. McCloghlin do act as Hon. Secretary in place of Mr. Allen.

LOCAL FEDERATION.

As nothing further on this subject had been received from Mr. Hyde, it was resolved the matter be left over till his return from England.

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the meeting.

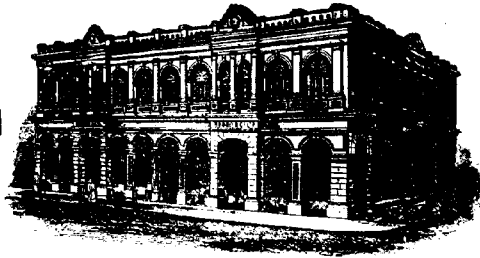
GOODYEAR



CEYLON AGENTS:—

The Eastern Garage & Motor Car Co.

GALLE FACE GARAGE.



Why
not
mail
your
next
order
to us?

BROWN & Co.,
THE LEADING HOUSE FOR THE LEADING LINES
-- IN --

Planting Requisites.

LEADERS:—

"Hornsby"
Oil and Gas Engines.
Alleyn's
Tea Breakers.

Robinson's
Rubber Washing Machines.
Brown & Co.'s
Hand Rubber Rollers.

"Crocodile" Brand Mamoties.
Planet Jr. Agricultural Implements.

Tullis's
Cotton Belting.
Brunton & Sons
Wire Ropes.

West Kent Co.'s
Portland Cement.
Hoyt Metal Co.'s
Antifriction Metals.

"Hornsby" Oil Engine Oil
"Yooll" Machinery Oil.

"Empire" & "Royal"
Typewriters.
Yale & Towne
Locks & Pulley Blocks.

"Lignum"
Paint for Woodwork.
Trehwella Bros
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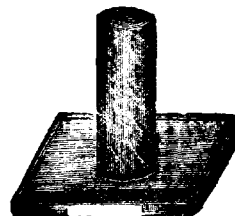
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						Rs.	11-00 per 100
„ „ or Cocoa „	9 by 3	„	„	„	8-00	„	15-00
„ „ „	10 by 4	„	„	„	9-00	„	20-00
„ Rubber „	15 by 4	„	„	„	10-00	„	24-00
„ „ „	18 by 4	„	„	„	11-00	„	27-00
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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Vol. II.]

SEPTEMBER, 1914.

[No 7

Editorial Notes

WE in Ceylon are off the track of the armies, and owing to the rigid censorship, are hardly even spectators of the war. Except for the bare chance of a German Cruiser appearing off Colombo there is little likelihood of our seeing so much as a shot fired. Our contingent will soon be at the front, but we must not expect to hear much of their movements for some time to come. In this quiet backwater it is almost impossible to realize that a great war is raging across all Europe; The Great War, the Armageddon about which so much has been foretold and written. For Germany and Austria it is a very struggle for existence as Powers in Europe. Defeat for France would mean bankruptcy, for Russia it would mean a set back for half a century and perhaps a revolution. While for England defeat would entail the payment of a huge indemnity and the loss of many of our Colonies. Who can doubt that Gibraltar, Aden, Ceylon and Singapore would be among the items of the price to pay. We are not among the players, but we form part of the stake. That is our position. It sounds a terrible position to be placed in. But no one seems to feel it so. The absolute solidity and strength of the British Empire is as much shown by the calm confidence and serene trust which prevails in this rich and almost defenceless Island, as by the grim ships in the North Sea. England has never gone into a fight

with cleaner hands or higher purpose than into this. Our great Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey, rising to a height which revealed him above the heads of all other Statesmen in Europe, bid each one of us look into his own heart. We have looked and we have seen there what he knew we should see. Our fellow-subjects of the King, the natives of this country, have looked too and their enthusiastic loyalty is what they found there. In his misty way the coolie has looked too, and one sees everywhere that he is ready to take his simple share of the Empire's burthen by going, if necessary, on shorter commons than usual, by remaining quiet, and by keeping undiminished that trust in his rulers which he has never yet found to be misplaced.

CEYLON ASSOCIATION IN LONDON.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1913-1914, TO BE LAID BEFORE THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 30TH DAY OF JUNE, 1914.

The number of Members on the Roll is 219 as against 217 last year. The number of new Members was unusually large, but unfortunately was nearly balanced by an unusual number of deaths.

The resolution passed at the last Annual Meeting, approving of "Peradeniya as the site for the proposed Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture" has not yet borne fruit.

Schemes have been drawn up both here and in Ceylon, and it has been made clear that for the establishment of the College a large sum of money will be required. A financial Committee was appointed at a Meeting of the London Committee, but nothing has as yet been heard of its report.

A dinner was given on the 22nd July, at Prince's Restaurant, as a "send off" to Sir Robert Chalmers, K.C.B., LL.D., the new Governor of Ceylon. The dinner was very well attended, and His Excellency expressed the pleasure that it gave him to have the opportunity of making acquaintance of so many gentlemen interested in the Colony.

The success of the recent Ceylon loan, the first issued under Governor Chalmers, shows that funds will not be wanting for the carrying out of the progressive policy as to public works which, as Governor, he is understood to favour.

Seven deaths have occurred during the year. All will feel keenly the loss of Mr. John Ferguson, C.M.G., who, for over 50 years was so closely connected with the progress of Ceylon. Mr. J. E. A. Dick Lauder, Member of Committee, will be much missed by the Association. The other names are the veteran, Mr. W. Riersen Arbuthnot, an old Ceylon proprietor; Mr. A. M. Ferguson, son of the former Editor of "The Observer"; Mr. H. W. Cave, whose books and photographs have set forth so admirably the beauties of Ceylon scenery; and Messrs. R. Wade Jenkins and James Westland, planters, whose careers date back almost to the middle of the last century.

The Report of the Tea and Produce Committee and the Accounts for the year are appended to this Report.

REPORT OF THE TEA AND PRODUCE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1913-1914.

Three Meetings of the Committee have been held during the year.

The only business of importance has been that in connection with the preparation for the International Rubber Exhibition to be opened on 24th June, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.

In last year's report it was stated that the Exhibition was not to be supported by the Ceylon Government and that representation thereat would be left to private enterprise. But the Committee are glad to announce that the Government has agreed to grant a similar amount to that subscribed privately up to Rs. 25,000. Proprietors of Rubber Estates have subscribed liberally, and the total amount now available is about £2,000, a sum slightly in excess of the expenditure in the case of the Exhibition of 1911.

The arrangements were in the first instance placed in the hands of a small Sub-Committee consisting of the President of the Association, Sir Stanley Bois, and Sir Edward Rosling. The names of Mr. J. C. Dunbar, Mr. C. O. MacAdam, Mr. F. Crosbie Roles, Mr. H. K. Rutherford, and Mr. C. Ryan have since been added. A number of gentlemen from Ceylon will help in the work so that Mr. R. N. Lyne, who comes as Government Commissioner, will have every support in his onerous duties. The arrangements are well advanced and there is every prospect of a successful Exhibition.

The fluctuations in the price of Rubber during the year, have been the source of much anxiety. But looking to the future the reduction to the lower level is undoubtedly wholesome, and there is good hope that with the more economical management now prevailing, the result may be, as in the case of Tea, Rubber growing in the East will gradually settle down into a steadily remunerative business.

The stability of the Tea market during the year presents a marked contrast in every way. The variations in price have been small and the average price of Ceylon Tea during 1913 was the highest for twenty years past. The average since 1st January last shows a further advance of nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. Under these circumstances the course of business has run on without disturbing incident and it is only to one or two minor points that the attention of the Committee has been called.

The Rubber Growers' Association has signified its willingness to assist in arranging for the establishment of monthly telegrams of the Exports of Ceylon Rubber to the United Kingdom, similar to the present Tea telegrams.

The Ceylon Proprietors' Labour Federation has been placed on a sounder footing, and it may be hoped that by its co-operation with the Coast Agency the trying Labour difficulties of the last few years may be to some extent mitigated.

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ACCOUNT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1913-1914.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
1913.		£ s. d.	1913.		£ s. d.
May 28.	To Balance with Union of London and Smith's Bank, Limited ...	243 14 6		By Secretary's Salary ...	150 0 0
	„ Interest from Bank ...	8 17 0		„ Assistant's Salary and Insurance ...	61 13 0
	„ Subscriptions— £ s. d.			„ Rent of Office ...	80 0 0
	Ceylon Planters' Association ...	100 0 0		„ Cleaning, Firing, etc. ...	31 8 4
	Ceylon Chamber of Commerce ...	100 0 0	July 3	„ Hire of Room for Annual Meeting ...	2 2 0
	Members—1912-1913... 1 1 0		„ 30	„ Balance of Dinner Account ...	8 19 0
	„ 1913-1914 ... 222 12 0			„ Newspapers, Books, etc. ...	6 6 0
	„ 1914-1915 ... 14 14 0			„ Printing, Stationery, etc. ...	32 6 6
		438 7 0		„ Postages, Telephone and Petties ...	32 4 10
			Sept. 3	„ Lantern Slides ...	6 7 6
			May 28 '14	„ Balance with Union of London and Smith's Bank, Limited ...	279 11 4
		<u>£690 18 6</u>			<u>£690 18 6</u>

Examined and found correct.

RALPH A. CAMERON,

8th June, 1914.

London, 28th May, 1914.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Twenty-sixth Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at the Rubber Growers' Association Rooms, 38, Eastcheap, E.C., on Tuesday, 30th June, at 2-30 p.m., to receive the Annual Report and to elect Officers for 1914-15.

By order of the Executive Committee,

WM. MARTIN LEAKE,
Secretary.

61 & 62, GRACECHURCH STREET,
LONDON, E.C.

19th June, 1914.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE EDITOR,
Planters' Gazette.

Sarnia,
Badulla, 30th July, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

There has been some correspondence appearing in your paper on the question of the present numbers and efficiency of the Ceylon Mounted Rifles, the strength of which has declined since 1911, when the Corps registered its greatest numbers.

There seems to be an idea that the social side has been neglected, and to some extent is responsible for this falling off, but while fully realising the pleasures this adds to Volunteering, I am convinced the social aspect in no way influences the best class of man if he wants to join the Corps.

In my opinion other reasons must be looked for and the principle one is the advent of the motor-bicycle which is a quicker and cheaper "animal" than the horse. A mounted man on the cart road is never seen now, as the younger generation, unless he has the inherent love of a horse, will use nothing but a motor-bicycle with which to get about the country. Again the Horse Insurance Scheme is of great benefit to the Corps but there are certain rules which undoubtedly tend to restrict recruiting and these I hope to have altered at an early date.

In 1910 the Corps was re-organised into two Squadrons under a scheme laid down by General French. If war threatens there is no doubt that these numbers could easily be secured, but most of the older members of the Corps were of the opinion at the time in such a small community that this strength could not be maintained, without the assistance of patriotic enthusiasm.

The percentage of Efficient in 1913 is the highest for the last four years and although 96 per cent. of Efficient, which was the figure obtained in 1902, will be hard to beat, I am convinced the standard of efficiency is higher now than it was then.

In your Editorial Notes "Trooper" truly remarked that everything depends upon the efforts of the Troop Officers, and these gentlemen can be depended upon to miss no opportunity to secure the best men with horses in their Districts for the Corps.

The Regimental Competitions are to be held in Kandy towards the end of this year, when I hope every Troop will be represented by at least one Section in the Lloyd-Lindsay Competition and that a record number will be on parade for the Regimental Drill in the morning and to attend the Dance at night.

Yours faithfully,

W. J. B. DICKSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
Commanding Ceylon M. R.

P.S.—Since writing the above, the war cloud in Europe has burst and England may and probably will find herself in the thick of it any day, in which case the Ceylon Planter may be depended upon to do his duty by his country and every European in Ceylon will take up arms for the protection of the Island.

Proprietors may depend upon training, interfering with estate work as little as possible, but training is necessary and must be done and the Planting Community with their past traditions will not shirk it.

In a few days' time ten million men will be acting in war, what they have practised in peace, but victory as it always has will smile on efficiency and not on numbers.

Yours faithfully,

W. J. B. DICKSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
Commanding Ceylon M. R.

NOTICE.

A FORMS.

I should be glad if Superintendents would advise me immediately they wish any A. form cancelled or in cases where they issue a fresh A. form on information received from the holder that the original A. form has been lost, as on receipt of such advice all my Agents are circularised and payments stopped accordingly. In no case should new A. forms be forwarded direct to kangany at their request without notification being made to this Commission of such action, as in the absence of such notification there is nothing to prevent the kangany or cooly who intends to defraud from securing payments on both A. forms and this has been done in one or two instances of late.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON.

Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

NOTICE.

Tickets on the Railway.

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kangany proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

A FORMS.

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September, 1913.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution Referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Trichinopoly, Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
14th October, 1913.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January, 1913.

Coast Agency Cess.

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the *Planters' Gazette*."

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee, held on Friday, 8th May, 1914.

RESOLVED:—

"That in future instances of Estates which are already subscribers to the Coast Agency endeavouring to assist non-subscribing estates, the following procedure be adopted:—

First, the Superintendent to be written to,
Second, the Agents or proprietor,
Third, the Estate Agents' Association, and failing satisfaction, the offending Estates' subscription shall be refused in future."

NOTICE.**Tuticorin Forwarding Agency.**

The opening of the new Indo-Ceylon Railway connection via Polgahawella and Dhanushkodi having diverted the greater part of the coolie traffic from the Colombo-Tuticorin route, notice is hereby given to Estates concerned that the Tuticorin Forwarding Agency will be closed on July 8th to be re-opened at Dhanushkodi so soon as pending arrangements are completed of which due notice will be given.

This notice does not include the Colombo Establishment which will be kept open.

NOTICE.**Guntur Agency.**

On page 408 of the July 1914 issue of the *Planting Gazette*, line eleven, Guntakal should read Guntur.

It has since been decided to retain this Agency until the end of 1914.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon

NOTICE.

The heavy reduction in coolies passing through the Ammapatam Agency during the last six months indicates that advantage is being taken of the new railway route and it has therefore been necessary to open an Agency at Arantangi, the terminus of the South Indian Railway in the Tanjore District. The Agency at Ammapatam has been closed from September 1st. Superintendents are kindly requested not to issue A. Forms on Ammapatam Agency in future, but to refer kanganies to Arantangi.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.**COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.****New Agencies.**

Owing to very few coolies utilising Ammapatam Agency since the opening of the new Indo-Ceylon connection, thus indicating that the new route via Mandapam is being taken full advantage of in preference to the sea trip this Agency will shortly be closed. All A. forms issued to coolies and kanganies should now be made out on the Arantangi Agency which has been opened in lieu of Ammapatam. Arantangi is the terminus of the Railway and situated about twenty miles from Ammapatam inland. Coolies recruited in these districts can in future be registered at

entrained at Arantangi and will proceed to Ceylon via Trichinopoly and Mandapam Camp. The small extra cost involved by this somewhat circuitous route will be, as a general rule, compensated for by the fact that coolies arriving at Arantangi will be promptly despatched to Mandapam, whereas at Ammapatam owing to the exigencies of the steamer service they frequently have to wait a week or more for shipment in the Ceylon Government Emigration Depot at the expense of estates concerned to be followed by detention at Ragama. The further advantage of checking, medical inspection and entraining at Trichinopoly under European supervision needs no comment.

Agencies Closed.

The Nellore Agency in the Telugu Circle was closed on the 15th instant. The Guntur Agency in the same Circle will not be closed as was originally intended, as I have instructions to keep it open for the present.

Manaparai Agency.

I shall be glad if Superintendents will note that I have decided to reinstitute Manaparai Agency for the registration of coolies on A. forms. All pre-advances will, however, be paid at Trichinopoly which is within 20 miles of Manaparai which will prevent complaints that these advances have not been paid in full or that unnecessary delay has been incurred in such payments which was the case formerly when the Manaparai Agency was in existence for the negotiation of A. forms.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,

Trichinopoly

Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

RECRUITING FIGURES.

Recruiting figures for the month of July show a drop of about 800 coolies as compared with last year and about 400 as compared with the year before, and the shortage for the period 1st January to 31st July is about 14,000 as compared with 1913 and 4,000 as compared with 1912. I find from the figures supplied by the Ceylon Emigration authorities that, while 78,094 coolies were passed through the Government Immigration Agencies from 1st January to 31st July, 1913, only 54,731 coolies have been passed through for a similar period of this year. It will be noticed, therefore, that the decrease in emigration has affected all employers in Ceylon as well as the Estates working through this Commission.

This drop has been general throughout the Telugu and Arcot Circles.

The whole of the Agencies in the Salem Circle show a decrease with the exception of Nanjangud and Namakal. Attur and Musiri show almost the same figures as last year.

In the Headquarter Circle Cannanore, Erode, Karur and Tanjore show an increase which is most marked in the case of the latter Agency. In Trichinopoly the figures are almost identical with last year, but there still remains a shortage of over 7,000 coolies for the whole period to date. As many coolies recruited in other districts are registered

here, it does not follow that the whole of this shortage has been incurred in the Trichinopoly District alone.

In the Madura Circle, Tinnevely and Tataparai show a large decrease. In the case of the former agency recruiting has been considerably hampered by the reports of plague in Colombo which were spread throughout the District, and Tataparai of course has been affected by the opening of the Mandapam route; as many coolies which were previously taken direct to Tataparai by recruiters are now taken direct to Mandapam, where 829 coolies have been registered for the month. Adding this to the Tataparai total for this year it shows an increase over last year of about 500.

Tondi shows a most serious deficit and the reasons for this were fully explained in the July issue of the *Planting Gazette*.

The prospects of an increase in the number of coolies emigrating during the month of August is not at all bright, as several important Hindu festivals occur and the month is not considered a propitious one for emigration. Very dry conditions prevail over the whole southern portion of the Presidency, and this is particularly the case in Tinnevely, where less than 1 in. of rain has been registered since the 1st of April instead of the usual average of 5.40 inches; in Trichinopoly the rainfall is 5 in. below the average and in Pudukotta and Coimbatore 4 inches. This will seriously affect the dry crops, but late rains may help the situation somewhat as regards the main crop of the year and the next harvest is likely to be late in consequence.

FORWARDING TIN TICKETS.

In a number of instances the Dead Letter Office of the Madras Post Office has forwarded me tin tickets which have been found lying loose in Mail bags, and I have frequently noticed that packages in which these tickets are forwarded are not sufficiently strong to stand the buffeting they receive on the journey from Ceylon. It would be advisable in all cases for Superintendents to tie their tickets tightly together and to enclose in a stout brown paper or cloth wrapping. The ordinary cloth lined "registered" envelopes are not strong enough to convey tickets safely to this point from Ceylon.

CORRESPONDENCE.

In several cases lately Superintendents have addressed letters to the Commissioner personally when forwarding complaints against agents or other cognate matters which they desired to bring to the Commissioner's personal attention. As, however, delay frequently occurs when correspondence is addressed to Officers by name, it would be advantageous to address the Commissioner by his official designation in all cases, but if a Superintendent considers that the contents of his letter should be brought directly to the notice of the Commissioner, he may mark on the envelope "Private," and envelopes with such endorsement will be opened only by the Commissioner or a member of the European staff.

N. H. M. BOWDEN,
For Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

HEADQUARTER AND MADURA CIRCLES.**General Information.****Musiri.**

This old-established Agency which caters for coolies recruited by Ceylon kanganies having connections in the District is doing fairly well and shows an improvement on last year which is not the case with most Agencies owing to climatic conditions and other adverse circumstances. The whole of the recruiting of this District appears to be in the hands of the kanganies themselves and few outsiders come to recruit direct, nor is it probable that they would meet with much success. If good kanganies having connections in the District come over, the Agent informs me that he considers that they would be able to get labour. The district is short of rain, the harvest has only been fair.

Manapara.

Recruiting Prospects are good, the figures for this year are January 28, February 25, March 69, April 79, May 202, June 170, July 124.

Namakal (Statistics.)

570 coolies have been registered against 357 for the same period last year showing an increase of 213, which is satisfactory, considering that local conditions at present are not altogether favourable. There has been rain lately and there is plenty of work in the fields.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

TELUGU AND ARCOT CIRCLES.**General Information.****Guntur.**

The cotton crop is over for the time, but there have been 10 days of thin rain and I noticed that a great deal of cultivation was going on in the black soil. There were heavy floods in the Kistna and another 3 foot rise expected, threatening destruction to the paddy crops. Chillies are the next biggest crop but this is also over cultivation was going on everywhere. Only a little young cholam was to be seen, which looked very well. Prospects of recruiting are only indifferent at present.

Katpadi.

The Agent anticipates a large increase in the number of coolies from Chittoor District during the next two months. I thoroughly agree with this and think it will be very extraordinary if there is not a great deal of emigration. Water is getting scarcer and long distances have to be travelled to get it even for domestic purposes. I am told that Palmaner and Punganur are even worse off than Chittoor Taluk and famine relief works are being considered.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Commissioner.

Nanjangud Agency,
1st August, 1914.

Coolies.

I beg to inform you the total number of coolies despatched is 72 against 60 of the last month. I hope the flow of coolies will increase from next month. Kanganies must go to villages and recruit coolies paying advances to the coolies before Village-Patails. Further, coolies are generally afraid of going to Ceylon estates, but they go to Nilgiris Coffee Plantations very willingly.

M. N. RENGASWAMY,
Agent.

CAMPING REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, SALEM CIRCLE, FOR JULY, 1914.

On the 15th I left Salem for Atur to tour in the jurisdiction of that Agency. The 16th I spent in going into all the books of the Agency and inspecting the same. On the 17th I visited Thalavassal, a village of about 5,000 inhabitants. The people crowded round in the usual way and I ascertained that only about 4 or 5 have gone to Ceylon about 3 years ago and have not since been heard of. People here seem fairly keen however and are anxious to go on "Doraikanack" but not with kanganies. Their wages are men 4 as. and women 3 as. From here I visited Kamakapalayam which is a little village of about 150 inhabitants, the wages are 3 to 4 as. and 2 as. respectively. Crops are in a bad state here and unless rain arrives here shortly the people will be in a bad way and glad to leave their village. From here I moved to Elupaanatham which has a population of about 1,500. Men get 4 to 6 as. and women 3 as. a day here. The people seemed keen to go to Ceylon provided they are recruited by Superintendents and not by kanganies as the latter's manner of feathering his own nest at their expense has left a bad impression of this individual.

On the 18th I went out south-west of Atur stopping first of all at Maickapuliyur. This village contains about 5,200 people and I was told about 200 had gone to Ceylon. A great many have also gone to Penang and the villagers say they prefer going there as they get more wages. I was able to see a Kangany here and also interviewed the Village Munsif. The inhabitants did not impress me with the idea of being very keen just at present, but I have no doubt this is due to their being busily engaged in tilling their lands in anticipation of rain. It is a rather bad time of the year just at present on this account. If the required rain does not come, there ought to be a large number of coolies available in August and September. From here I went to Eachampatty. This village contains about 400 persons, the local wages being 4 as. and 3 as. They look very little interest in emigration here and several tried to be rather witty, so I left them and went on to Mallikarai, a village of about 2,500 inhabitants. Here I managed to see another kangany who

told me himself that coolies' debts only amounted to Rs. 10 and the balance of an advance, if any, was always paid to their relations as "santhosham." The wages paid here are 4 as. and 3 as. About 30 have gone to Ceylon and returned again off and on. The villagers say, however, that it is only kanganies who come back with money and not the coolies. Very few have gone to Penang from here. Crops are in a bad state and there has been insufficient rain up to date. The next village was Kandasamy-Pudur containing about 1,000 inhabitants. Crops in this part looked very fair and the people seemed satisfied. Men earn 4 as. and women earn from 1½ to 2 as. They seemed very keen to be recruited by Superintendents themselves and go on "Doraikanack" and spoke very badly of kanganies. After this I visited Thambampatty. The population here is about 2,000. About 10 are said to have gone to Ceylon and returned again. It is possible for men to earn 6 to 8 as. a day and women 3 as. cutting firewood in the local reserve forests. The crops are in a very fair state and there is about 6 inches of water in the river running past this village. Very little interest was taken in emigration which is probably due to the above mentioned satisfactory state of living. One mile from here I stopped at a place called Koneripatty having a population of about 500. All the people are Roman Catholics and there is quite a big Church, the steeple of which can be seen from some distance. I paid a visit to the 2 Roman Catholic Fathers here who are both Frenchmen and were extremely kind and genial. They seem quite prepared to assist Ceylon emigration and promise to do all they can to better the prospects of their converts in their village, if they do not get rain very shortly. About 100 have gone to Ceylon from here and all state that they prefer having monetary dealings with the Dorai direct and not with kanganies.

On Monday, the 20th, I went out to a place called Thimmanayakanpatty. The population here is about 300. Men earn 2½ as. and women 1 to 1½ as. a day. Only 5 or 6 are said to have gone to Ceylon from here and the crops are somewhat poor. In spite of this, however, the inhabitants did not appear at all anxious to emigrate. I was able to gain some information about a kangany who was here as he could not be found. After this I stopped at Somampatty. There are no kanganies working in this place which seems to be doing fairly well as the crops are reported to be good. I interviewed the Village Munsif who informed me that the population was 5,015 and about 30 had gone to Ceylon, but nowhere else. Men earn a daily wage of from 5 to 6 as. and women 3 to 4 as.

The next day, the 21st, I visited Nadavalur, which has a population of about 2,000. I was exceedingly lucky in coming across two kanganies in this village, quite accidentally. The wages are from 6 to 8 as. for men and 4 as. for women and about 15 people are said to have left this village for Ceylon. Good reports have been received and the people seem rather keen to go in consequence. One gentleman tried to be extra witty in this village and said that if bags of sovereigns were brought and doled out

to the villagers they would be pleased to go to Ceylon. It is somewhat disconcerting when a wag of this description turns up and the only thing to do on such occasions is to make some equally or if possible more sarcastic remark in return when he usually vanishes in the crowd. At the next village, Thedavoor, I was greeted with the snorting of a cotton ginning machine which appears to be one of the chief employments here. Men earn 4 as. and women earn 3 as. a day. The population is about 5,000 and most of them are weavers. About 100 are reported to have gone to Ceylon and the same number to Penang. They say that the latter is preferred on account of the high wages paid. Crops are in a good state and the people seem somewhat indifferent towards emigration. From here I moved on to Veeraganur. The population of this place is about 4,500. Men earn 4 as. and women 3 as. a day. Crops are in a bad state and rain is scarce. I interviewed the Village Munsif and also his predecessor in that capacity who informed me that about 400 persons had emigrated to Ceylon and Penang from this village. The people seem rather keen and the Munsif appeared anxious to assist Superintendents recruiting. From here I went on to Gangavally having a population of about 6,000. Crops are poor and local wages are 4 as. and 3 as. About 200 are said to have gone to Ceylon and a very few to Penang as they say they prefer Ceylon. The Kangany seems to have left a very bad impression in this village and the people are not at all anxious to be recruited by this individual if it is possible to be recruited direct by Superintendents. I was informed that it is only those who have no debts get 4 as. a day and those involved to any extent receive only 2½ as. a day, which is only another way of saying that part of their wages are kept back to pay their debts.

On the 22nd, I visited Yethapur which has about 4,000 inhabitants. The wages are 4 as. and 3 as. About 100 are said to have gone to Ceylon and altogether between 400 and 500 to Penang, Ceylon, Natal, and other places. I saw the Village Munsif here and distributed a large number of notices. Some labour should be available in this village as the people appear to be emigrating freely. The next place I stopped at was called Puthur and only had 150 inhabitants. Local wages are 4 as. and 3 as. and crops are reported to be in a bad state. About 5 have gone from this place to Ceylon, but it seemed difficult to arouse much interest in those who gathered round. After leaving here I stopped at a place called Belur. A few have gone both to Ceylon and Penang from here and a large number from the surrounding villages. Crops seem to be in a very fair state and the people not very keen just at present. Local wages are 3 and 4 as. and 2 to 2½ as. The population of the village is about 2,000.

On the 23rd, having covered all the roads in the Taluk, I went out again to Koneripatty and had another long talk regarding emigration to Ceylon with one of the Roman Catholic Fathers I mentioned having called on before, and in the evening again visited the village of Nadavalur where the people had seemed very anxious to go to Ceylon and distributed more notices.

On the 24th, I went to a village called Celeampatty, which was a mile from the main road and enquired regarding some coolies who had been recruited there. The population of this place is about 2,000. The local wages are 4 as. and 2 to 3 as. Between 40 and 50 have gone to Ceylon and about 20 to Penang. They seem to prefer Ceylon. From this village, I returned to Salem concluding my tour for this month. I covered altogether 315 miles during this camp but was extremely unlucky with regard to interviews with kanganyes. In a large number of cases the kanganyes could not be found with the assistance of the village Munsif, or if he was absent the villagers seemed absolutely disinclined to assist me in finding them at all. I have made several close enquiries into the question of village indebtedness in these parts and the information I have gathered from the villagers themselves, coupled with that kindly given by the aforementioned Catholic priests, goes to show that villagers can only secure advances if they are known and trustworthy men having some security in either lands or houses to offer for the same. When it is said that a man has a debt amounting to Rs. 50 or Rs. 100, it does not mean that he has received an advance to this extent but has accumulated this amount over a period of 10 or 15 years, together with the interest thereon amounting to 10 per cent. or 12 per cent. If advances are made by landowners to their servants whom they think they can trust, pronotes are of course taken and I understand that these can be produced whenever it is wished to ascertain the actual amount of a cooly's debt when he emigrates to Ceylon. As I have said in previous reports, the kangany no doubt takes advantage of this fact of indebtedness, being in some cases more and in others less, and makes out to his Superintendent that the cooly cannot possibly be recruited unless some fictitiously absurd and large debt is met by the estate. Of course if all kanganyes recruited their coolies in a straightforward manner and really obtained these pronotes taking the coolies from their village with the knowledge of everybody, it ought to be quite easy to insist on a kangany producing these original pronotes for the debts supposed to have been paid, when the estate would then be quite satisfied that the advance was made for a genuine purpose and to meet actual debts, and not as of course is done unknowingly in most cases for the kangany to have an extra pleasant holiday when he comes to coast. My camping was made doubly pleasant by having Mr. T. G. Sim with me. This gentleman went to all the villages I visited in company with me and I think was able to find several likely places for recruiting in, and I trust he will meet with the success he deserves when he again returns, which he intends doing, to some of the most likely villages for securing labour.

E. V. B. LEVINGE.
Assistant Commissioner.

TUTICORIN AGENCY.

This Agency was closed on the 8th July, but a peon has been posted at Tuticorin to conduct Estate coolies from the

steamer to the hotel which is under the control of the Commission where they will be fed at a uniform rate of 2½ as. per meal if they are provided with feeding cards. Superintendents should particularly note that no Railway tickets can be purchased at Tuticorin for their kanganyes, but if they send them through my Colombo Forwarding Agent he will purchase through tickets for them to their destination on the South Indian Railway provided the same is south of Madura. Coolies for stations north of Madura should be sent by the new route via Talaimannar. Coolies from low country estates should be sent through my Colombo Forwarding Agency as the Agent has instructions to feed and book them through to their destination.

COLOMBO AGENCY.

The Colombo Agency is maintained and Superintendents are again reminded of the advantages of forwarding their coolies to the care of my Agent who will look after them in Colombo and see them on board their train or boat thus protecting them from the oudmashes and touts who frequent parts of Colombo. This Agency is being kept open for the benefit of low country Estates coolies and for those coolies who are proceeding to Tuticorin from up-country.

CAMPING REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF ARCOT AND TELUGU CIRCLES FOR JULY, 1914.

On the 16th July, I left Headquarters to inspect the Agencies of Telugu Circle and camp in the vicinity of Guntakal. I went first to Cuddapah by train and inspected that Agency on the 17th and 18th.

On the 19th I left Cuddapah by train for Guntakal and the following morning began my inspection of that Agency. That afternoon I took down the back hub of the motor cycle which had been giving some trouble. My inspection of Guntakal agency was completed the following day and I started out to go to Pathakottacheru. There is no Travelers' Bungalow in Guntakal and that at Pathakottacheru is the nearest. It began to rain very heavily, however, and I had to give up the idea of moving that day.

On the morning of the 22nd I went by road to Gooty sending all my saman by train. This road has not been kept in repair and was in a very bad condition and the recent rains had made it very difficult going. The only villages on the road are Thimmacheria and Thimmapuram. There had been quite a lot of rain recently and a good deal of cultivation was going on. The soil is nearly all black. A good deal of young cholum was already coming up which looked very healthy as there was plenty of water. A good part of this road however goes over high rocky land where there is no cultivation and all along the road there was scarcely a house to be seen.

In Gooty I called upon the Reverend F. L. Marler of the London Mission. Mr. Marler gave me his opinion that there would be very few coolies to be had in the vicinity. Numbers of coolies had gone to work on the new Anicut on the Kistna river where they can earn as much as 12 as. a day. It is this that is making recruiting so bad at present near Guntakal. Naturally if a cooly can earn 12 annas a day comparatively close to his home and return in a short time with plenty of money he will not be likely to think of going to Ceylon. Recruiting is bound to be affected for a long time by this large P. W. D. work. Added to this the rainfall here has been very good and the next season promises to be a good one.

The following day I made an excursion to Pamidi on the Anantapur line. The villages on this road are Meduthur, Gajanampalla and Pugur. Most of the soil about here is red and the chief crop is Sadzalu (kambu) but cholam and red gram are also grown. There was nothing to be seen in the fields as the sowing was just beginning. I should say that recruiting would be only slightly better along this road. The average daily wage is about 4 annas and occasionally rises to 6 annas.

That afternoon the rain came down heavily and it was still raining quietly and persistently next morning. I had made arrangements to go to Dhone by road and as the rain was very slight and I hoped it might clear up I sent off the carts and followed myself a short time afterwards. The road was in execrable condition and as the monsoon rain began to sweep over again we only got as far as Piapalli that day. This road is undulating with gradual rise towards Piapalli which is fairly high up and is called the sanatorium of Kurnool District. Piapalli is a pretty little place even seen through the mist, green and fresh looking; but this may have been partly the result of the rain. Along the road cultivation alternated with scrubby hills. There was only one village called Pathodi curiously built into the side of a hill across a small valley in which the whole population was tilling the fields. The houses were all built of stone and flat-roofed with slabs and some of them looked as if the hill had been hollowed out behind them. I remained at Piapalli Travellers' Bungalow that night and the rain ceased at about 6 o'clock next morning. The rest of the road into Dhone is quite good and had dried up fairly well except in the hollows. The way is mostly downhill and cultivation increases as one descends. I passed through and advertised in the villages of Yengapari, Ungarulukundu and Kothapalli and here at ordinary times I should think recruiting would be fairly good. The villages can easily be reached from Dronachalam Station.

The same night I left for Guntur by train where I arrived at 4 o'clock the following afternoon (Sunday). The following morning I inspected the Agency. The office building has been changed here and I think the change is a good deal for the better. The present building is a new one and the rooms are much larger. Its position on the main road is better.

While in Guntur I lunched at the Bank where I was able to get some information about the district. Paddy is

considered the principal crop though there is very little of it near Guntur or to the north and west. There has been 10 days steady drizzle and the rain appears to have been much heavier further up-country. There were heavy floods in the Kistna and while it was said that more than another 3 foot rise would break many of the bunds such a rise was already prophesied and expected. This would mean enormous damage to the crop and several godowns used as store houses were in danger of being washed away. The crops usually most in evidence about Guntur are cotton and chillies but the harvest of both of these is over. I expect these rains will effect recruiting for a short time but nothing like so much as farther west. The amounts of water in the Kistna River really affects only the rice growing area from which there is never much emigration, but unless there is a good deal more rain recruiting in the rest of the district should remain fairly good after a slight check.

I left Guntur for Guntakal at 6 o'clock that evening (the 28th) and arrived at Guntakal at 6-30 on the evening of the 29th, the train being over two hours late. The actual distance is only 259 miles.

The following day I tried an excursion along both the Bellary road and the Adoni road but I found them impossible after the first few miles. The whole country here is a flat expanse of black soil. From any slight rise one can see enormous distance on all sides and there is scarcely a village to be seen though dotted all over one could see men and women using their primitive ploughs. Where all these people come from it is hard to think for I only came across one village in 18 miles. (Sippagiri.)

Guntakal itself is quite a small village and would be of no importance but for the large Railway Junction. There is very little recruiting to be done in the immediate vicinity but there is plenty of labour available at some distance in Bellary and Kurnool and to a smaller extent Gooty and Dharmavaram.

Early the following morning I left by train for Cuddapah to hold an enquiry at the Agency. I was in Cuddapah only a few hours and left the same night for Headquarters where I arrived the following morning.

There appears to have been good rain all over the Telugu Districts and this will certainly keep the labour in the country. Previous rain in Cuddapah District had not supplied the tanks except for few days, but the present rains are doing a lot of good to the land and if they continue which seems likely, the district will have a good store of water for the coming crops. I hear that several rayats are erecting Oil engines to irrigate the land and at least one of these is already working. The population of Cuddapah is very sparse yet in the dry season there is a great deal of distress. The Oil engines can irrigate several hundred acres of land and require only one man to look after them.

I dined on two occasions with Mr. Davis, the Collector of Cuddapah. Mr. Davis compares the rainfall in Cuddapah with that of districts further North and points out that the comparison is distinctly favourable to Cuddapah. On the other hand the greater part of the district is red soil. What has not been realized until quite recently is the great value

dustry in Cuddapah, however, is the stone work. Cuddapah
slabs are famous. I understand that a cooly can earn as
much as 12 annas a day at this work.

During this camp I covered:—

By Rail 960

By Road 122

Total 1082

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE

Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 1914.

AGENCIES.				PREVIOUSLY.				JULY.				TOTAL.				G. TOTAL.	
HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE:—																	
	M.	W.	Ch.	Inft.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Inft.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Inft.			
1. Cannanore	192	14	2	3	211	40	1	0	0	41	232	15	2	3	252		
2. Palghat	541	31	17	6	595	122	7	4	4	137	663	38	21	10	732		
3. Erode	607	152	85	52	896	139	33	16	4	192	746	185	101	56	1088		
4. Karur	437	99	51	28	615	109	24	16	110	159	546	123	67	38	774		
5. Trichinopoly	9,175	3,025	2,293	1,087	15,580	2,638	945	747	343	4,673	11,813	3,970	3,040	1430	20,253		
6. Manaparai	344	128	65	36	573	75	21	25	3	124	419	149	90	39	697		
7. Dindigul	723	216	89	53	1,081	166	47	19	19	251	889	263	108	72	1,332		
8. Tanjore	1,139	323	122	112	1,696	280	73	22	29	404	1,419	396	144	141	2,100		
9. Annamapattanam	94	25	10	6	135	30	16	11	2	59	124	41	21	8	194		
10. Arantangi	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	3	8	3	2	0	3	8		
11. Pudukottah	642	180	189	81	1,092	121	27	22	15	185	763	207	211	96	1,277		
MADURA CIRCLE:—																	
12. Madura	1,989	693	498	250	3,430	474	183	138	81	876	2,463	876	636	331	4,306		
13. Pamban	37	14	6	1	58			Closed.		37	14	6	1	1	753		
14. Mandapam	1,096	441	342	151	2,030	403	199	152	75	829	1,499	640	494	226	2,859		
15. Tinnevely	652	132	115	44	943	156	43	41	20	280	889	175	156	64	1,203		
16. Tataparai	714	250	99	73	1,136	200	75	43	34	352	914	325	142	107	1,488		
17. Tondi	234	81	35	27	377	40	8	11	4	63	274	89	46	31	440		
SALEM CIRCLE:—																	
18. Nanjangud	92	28	7	5	132	44	18	7	2	71	136	46	14	7	203		
19. Dbarnasपुरi	78	27	7	10	122	32	6	5	3	46	110	33	12	13	168		
20. Kuppam	39	7	7	4	57	24	2	1	1	28	63	9	8	5	85		
21. Tirupatur	13	8	0	1	22	8	2	0	1	11	21	10	0	2	38		
22. Salem	477	147	75	67	766	82	27	14	8	131	559	174	89	75	897		
23. Atur	131	47	26	22	226	39	12	4	7	62	170	59	30	29	283		
24. Namakal	287	102	84	56	509	67	20	8	5	100	354	122	92	61	629		
25. Turaiyur	186	95	74	50	405	55	19	16	10	100	241	114	90	60	506		
26. Musiri	300	123	101	63	587	74	33	35	17	159	374	561	135	80	746		
ARCOT CIRCLE:—																	
27. Katpadi	794	281	113	71	1,259	259	98	38	20	415	1,053	379	161	91	1,674		
28. Arkonam	514	177	54	67	812	152	51	17	20	240	666	228	71	87	1,052		
29. Chingleput	595	189	81	34	899	193	51	26	13	283	788	240	107	47	1,182		
30. Villupuram	1101	339	127	136	1,703	328	104	25	31	486	1,427	443	152	167	2,189		
TELUGU CIRCLE:—																	
31. Guntakal	109	37	14	17	177	31	8	0	0	39	140	45	14	17	215		
32. Cuddapah	54	20	7	9	90	20	5	1	1	27	74	25	8	10	117		
33. Guntur	36	10	10	2	58	23	4	1	0	28	59	14	11	2	86		
34. Nellore	16	5	2	2	25			Closed			16	5	2	2	25		
35. Chittoor	11	12	1	2	26			Transporting Agency.			11	12	1	2	26		
23,449 7,458 4,808 2,628 38,343 6,425 2,164 1,465 785 10,839 29,874 9,622 6,273 3,413 43,182 1913.. 63,122																	

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched Monthly from each Agency during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	July	Total
Telugu Circle.														
Guntakal	1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	32	91	27	118
"	1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452	75	527
"	1914	22	29	51	22	73	35	108	43	151	26	177	39	216
Cuddapah	1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95	37	132
"	1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	244	132	376
"	1914	12	33	45	...	45	20	65	13	78	31	90	27	117
Guntur	1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269	27	296	83	329
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	198	3	141
"	1914	2	2	4	6	10	7	17	10	27	31	58	28	86
Nellore	1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58	9	67
"	1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126	13	139
"	1914	7	...	7	7	14	4	18	4	22	3	25	closed	25
Chittoor	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	51	27	78
"	1914	...	...	...	16	16	10	26	Transporting Agency.	26	Transporting Agency.	26	Transporting Agency.	26
Madras (Forwarding Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arcot Circle.														
Katpadi	1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1082	415	1497	577	2074
"	1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1263	342	1605	520	1925
"	1914	102	140	242	171	413	199	612	295	907	352	1259	415	1674
Arkonam	1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1014	287	1301
"	1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1023	368	1391
"	1914	114	69	183	61	244	144	388	230	618	191	812	240	1052
Chingleput	1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953	562	1515	505	2020
"	1913	99	132	231	223	454	424	878	440	1318	492	1810	556	2366
"	1914	55	78	133	107	240	154	394	258	652	247	899	283	1182
Villupuram	1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1277	501	1778	618	2396
"	1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1059	682	1741	654	2395	582	2977
"	1914	118	140	258	167	425	312	737	404	1141	562	1708	486	2194
Salem Circle.														
Nanjangud	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19	88	18	106
"	1914	19	6	25	15	40	17	57	15	72	60	132	71	203
Dharmapuri	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115	13	128	59	187
"	1914	9	25	34	9	43	25	68	45	113	9	122	46	168
Kuppam	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	5	16	21	2	23	9	32	16	48	9	57	28	85
Madura Circle.														
Madura	1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1178	603	1781	563	2344	537	2881
"	1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1739	766	2505	66	3121
"	1914	293	246	539	438	977	557	1534	851	2385	1045	3430	876	4306
Pamban	1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201	93	294	132	426
"	1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224	68	292	75	367
"	1914	48	10	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
Mandapam	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	128	128	382	510	762	1272	758	2030	829	2859
Tinnevely	1912	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773	291	1064	340	1404
"	1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958	399	1357	400	1757
"	1914	133	108	241	113	354	112	466	186	652	291	943	260	1203
Tutaparai	1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1024	522	1546	607	2153	573	2726
"	1913	267	352	619	433	1052	761	1813	741	2554	801	3355	678	4033
"	1914	122	161	283	157	440	180	620	302	922	214	1136	352	1488

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	July	Total.
Madura Circle.														
Tuticorin (Forwarding Agency)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	1912	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1070	360	143	423	1853
"	1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	149	402	1811
"	1914	111	56	167	44	211	30	241	77	318	59	377	63	440

Closed Agencies :—

Coconada	1912	..	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69	49	118	38	156
"	1913	6	15	21	37	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182	64	246
"	1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	...	118	50	168
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	1912	...	27	27	12	39	31	70	44	114	10	124	39	163
"	1913	9	25	44	2	46	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	6	5	11	10	21	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand total	1912	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710	7365	18075	1777	29792	12546	42338	1123	5377
	1913	3491	3911	7402	4337	12239	9328	21567	14882	36449	15063	51512	11610	63122
	1914	2544	2798	5342	4030	9372	6623	5995	10544	26539	11804	38343	10839	49182

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles.						
Trichinopoly ... (Karur Agency)	Karur ...	Paddy	4	2½		
		Paddy, ragi groundnuts, cumbu, cholam and termaric. In Karur Taluk ¾ of the cultivation is groundnut, ragi, cumbu, cholam and termaric and ¼ of the cultivation is paddy.				Villagers live upon wages by working in fields, roads in construction of building in the town; all wet lands are being cultivated by the river water.
Coimbatore ...	P. Dharapuram		4	2½	Fair	
Malabar ... (Cannanore Agency)	<div> <div> Cherakal ... Kottayam ... Kurambranad ... Calicut ... Ernad ... Valluwanaad ... Ponani ... Palghat ... Wynaad ... </div> <div> Crops have partly failed. </div> </div>	5 to 6	2½ to 3	Good	There are good prospects of getting coolies in this district, if Estates with reliable Malayalees or Tamils are advised to send them over to these parts.	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 1914.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.	
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.			
Headquarters & Madura Circles.							
Coimbatore ... (Erode Agency)	Erode ...	There is				Labourers are out of work at present. Up to harvest time high prices for grain will prevail.	
	Palladam ...	plenty of					
	Bavani ...	water in the					
	Copichettipoliam ...	river and					
	Avanashi ...	channel and					
	P. Dharapuram ...	therefore					
	Satiamangalam ...	paddy pros-			Good		
Madura ... (Madura Agency)	Udamalpet ...	pects are				Rain in all parts required. Drought prevailing in parts of Taluks. Fields left uncultivated for want of water. Paddy crops under irrigation fair. Paddy under wells fair and also ragi. Dearthness prevailing for staple food. Labour insufficient. Malur, Tirumangalam and Tirupuvanam contribute more coolies than other Taluks. On the whole the recruiting is fair.	
	Pollachi ...	expected to					
	Kollegal ...	be good.					
	Madura ...	Paddy crops					
	Maloor ...	indifferent and	6	3	Fair		
	Periakulam ...	ragi in parts					
	Nilakottai ...	fair.					
Ramnad ...	Periakulam ...	Paddy and	5	3	do		
	Nilakottai ...	ragi crops	4	3	Indifferent		
	Tirumangalam ...	fair.					
	Ramand ...	do	4	3	do		
	Tirupuvanam ...	do	5	3	Good		
	Tirupatur ...	do	4	2½	Fair		
	Sivaganga ...	do	4	2	Good		
Madura ... (Dindigul Agency)	Mana Madura ...	do	5	3	Fair		
	Dindigul ...	do	4	3	do		
	Palani ...	Cholam, very				The reason for slackness of recruiting of coolies at present in this place is owing to the harvest of cholam (good crop this year) and besides food stuffs, etc., are cheaper. After the cholam, etc., harvested, no work for the labouring classes and large number of coolies should be available.	
	Nilakottai ...	good, cumbu	5	3			
	Periakulam ...	and ragi good.					
	Periakulam ...	do	5	2½			
	Udamalpet ...	Paddy mode-			Fair		
Pollachi ...	rate, cumbu,	4	2				
	cholam and						
Ramnad ... (Mandapam Agency.)	Satur ...	ragi, good.	4	2			
	Srivilliputtur ...	Cholam good.	5	2½			
	Ramnad ...	do					
	Kamudi ...	Paddy pros-					
	Rasimangalam ...	pects fair in this					
	Mudukolathur ...	district. No	(Muffisal)	3			
	Sivaganga ...	rain till to-day	4				
Malabar ... (Palghat Agency)		and hence the	(Town)	4			
		ryots are not					
		able to plough	6				
		their lands.					

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop. Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles						
Puducottah ... (Puducottah Agency)	Kolathur	... Ragi and paddy cultiva- tion in parts going on.	4	2½	Very poor	The labouring class find sufficient engage- ments at home. Further the Tamil month Ani is considered to be very inauspicious for coolies to emigrate. Hence recruiting prospects during the month are very poor.
	Tirumayam	... do	5	3½	do	
	Alangudi	... Ragi cultiva- tion fair throughout. Paddy cultiva- tion is going on vigorously.	4	2½	do	
Tanjore ... (Tanjore and Arantangi Agencies)		Water supply sufficient ex- cept in parts. Flow over the Grand Anicut 4 feet. Paddy				Pasture generally sufficient. Fodder available, condition of cattle generally good. Anthrax in one Taluk. Employment avail- able, grain stocks sufficient. Prospects generally fair.
	Arantangi	... seedlings are				
	Kumbakonam	... being raised in				
	Mayaveram	... parts of six				
	Nannilam	... Taluks—trans-	6 to 8	4 to 6	Fair	
	Papanasam	... planting of				
	Pattukottai	... paddy in parts				
	Shiyali	... of 2 Taluks—				
Tanjore ... (Ammapatnam Agency)	Tanjore	... Ragi seedlings				There are no pro- fessional recruit- ers here, but kanganies only recruit coolies.
	Tiruturaipoondi	are being rais- ed in parts of one Taluk and sowing in pro- gress. Stand- ing crops generally fair.				
Ramnad ... (Tondi Agency)	Tiruwadanie	...	Good	4 to 6	3 to 4	After the open- ing of the Indo- Ceylon route wages of male coolies are in- creased from 6 annas to 7 annas. Tin ticket coolies are going via Mandapam
	Tirupathur	...				
	Sivaganga	...				
	Paramakudi	...				
Tinnevely ... (Tinnevely Agency.)	Tenkasi	... Good	5½	6		
	Ambasamudram	... do	6	4		
	Tinnevely	... Not bad	5½	4		
	Nanguneri	... Not good	4	2½		
	Koilpati	... Fair	5	3½		
	Srivaikundam	... Good	5	4		
	Trichendur	... Not bad	5	3½		
	Sankaranainar- coil	... Not Good	5½	4		

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles.			Annas.	Annas.		
Travancore	... Trivendrum	... Good and not at all bad.	7	4	Fair	Sowing and transplantation take place all over the major portion of the district.
			(in Town sides)	(in Town sides)		
			3½	2		
			(village parts)			
Tinnevely ... (Tatapara Agency)		Dry lands.— Season is over, grains such as cholam, etc.,				The month of July was fairer than the previous month and there had been 138 coolies more than the previous month, chiefly from Koilpatty and Sankaranainarcoil on account of the parched up state existing there, and there is hope that this month also will not be less than the last month yet on account of the two big festivals now existing at Sankaranainarcoil, and as this month is an inauspicious month for travelling for Hindu classes much labour is not now coming in. Secondly, the sudden outbreak of European war will compel labourers to go to Ceylon, as there will be dearth of the articles of consumption.
	Koilpatti	... are cultivated	Daily wages from	Daily wages from		
	Sankaranainarcoil	... by means of	4½ to 5½ annas and	2½ annas to 3	Independent labourers	
	Srivaikundam	... water drawn	earn up to 10 annas.	annas	earn up to 5	
	Trichandur	... from wells.		pendent labourers	earn up to 5	
		Wet lands.— Srivaikundam and Trichandur enjoy wet.		or 5½ annas.		
Arcot & Telugu Circles.						
Chittoor	Chittoor	... Paddy, ragi and groundnut	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	
	Kalastry	... do	do	do	do	
	Karvetnagar	... Groundnut and cumbu	do	do	do	
	Palamanair	... Sugarcane, ragi and chillies	do	do	do	
	Vayalpad	... do	do	do	do	
	Madanapalle	... Sugarcane, ragi and betel	do	do	do	
	Punganur	... do	do	do	do	
	Chendragiri	... Paddy, ragi and sugarcane	do	do	do	
Tamil Districts.						
North Arcot...	Arcot	... Ragi and cumbu good	4	2	Good	
	Gudiyatam	... do	do	do	do	
	Walaja	... do	do	do	do	
	Vellore	... do	do	do	do	
	Polur	... do	do	do	do	
	Arni	... do	do	do	do	
	Wandiwash	... Ragi fair. Cumbu and cholam will be sown	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	
	Cheyar	... do	do	do	do	
	Arkonam	... do	do	do	Good	
	Chittoor	Putthoor and Karvetnagar	... Ragi fair. Cumbu and cholam will be sown	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair
Tiruvallur		... Ragi good. Paddy will be sown	do	do	Good	
Chingleput	Ponneri	... do	do	do	Fair	
	Chingleput	... Paddy good	5	4	Good	
	Conjeevaram	... Nil	do	do	do	
	Madurantakam	... Cumbu fair	do	do	do	
	Saidapet	... Ragi and Cumbu fair	do	do	do	

N. H. M. BOWDEN,
For Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 1914.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women.		
Tamil Districts.			Annas.	Annas.		
South Arcot...	Villupuram	Groundnuts and ragi	6	5	Good	
	Kallakurchi ...	Sugarcane, rice, indigo, cho'am and ragi	do	do	do	
	Chidambaram ...	Paddy good	do	do	do	
	Tiruvanamalai...	Cholam good	do	do	do	
	Tirukovilur ...	Paddy	do	do	do	
	Viruthasalam ...	Bengal gram, cotton and sugarcane	do	do	do	
	Tindivanam ...	Ragi good	do	do	do	
	Cuddalore ...	Paddy	do	do	do	
Telugu Districts.						
Cuddapah ...	Cuddapah ...	Cultivation commenced	4	2	Indifferent	
	Jammalamadugu	do	6	3	Good	
	Proddatur ...	do	8	4	Bad	
	Badvel ...	Cumbu growing	3	2	Good	
	Sidhout ...	do	do	do	do	
	Pullampet ...	Cumbu and paddy growing	4	do	do	
	Royachoty ...	Cumbu growing	3	do	do	
Guntur ...	Pulivendla ...	Cultivation commenced	8	3	Bad	
	Kamalapuram ...	do	4	2	Good	
	Guntur ...	Cholam, cumbu and red-gram. Chillies will be sown	4 to 5	2 to 3	Indifferent	
	Vinukonda ...	do	do	do	Good	
	Narasarowpet ...	do	do	do	do	
	Satnapalli ...	do	do	do	do	
	Bapatla ...	do	do	do	Bad	
Anantapur ...	Tenali ...	Paddy.	do	do	do	
	Anantapur ...	Cholam and ragi nearly ripe	5	3	Moderate	
	Dharmavaram ...	Cumbu and cholam good	do	do	Bad	
	Kadiri ...	do	4	2	do	
	Gooty ...	Cumbu and cholam	do	do	Moderate	
	Tadpatri ...	do	do	2½	Bad	
	Kaliyandrug ...	Cholam good	4½	do	Moderate	
Kurnool ...	Kurnool ...	Paddy good.	5	do	do	
	Nandiyal ...	Cotton good.	4½	do	do	
	Dhone ...	do	5½	do	do	
Bellary ...	Bellary ...	Paddy and ragi good.	5	do	Moderate	
	Royadrug ...	do	do	do	do	
	Hospet ...	Paddy good	do	do	do	
	Adony ...	do	4½	do	do	
	Uruvakonda ...	Cumbu and cholam good	do	do	do	

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner

District.	Taluk.	Crop. Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Salem Circle.	Salem Town ...	Fair	4 to 5	2½ to 3	Moderate	Coolies are still engaged in D. P. W. Works and Government Buildings.
	Salem Taluk ...	Poor	3½ to 4	2 to 2½	Moderate	People are engaged in sowing Cholum and Kumbu since there has been a little rain.
	Omalur ...	Moderate	3½ to 2		Moderate	There is a little rain every two or three days and the people are engaged in sowing grains.
	Trichengode ...	Moderate	4	2½	Moderate	There has also been rain in this Taluk, labour will probably be only available during the next month or two, if insufficient rain is received.
	Uttengarai ...	Poor	4	2½	Fair	Owing to scarcity of rain people are keen to go on Doraikanack, and not on Kangany's account. There is labour available.
	Hosur ...	Good	4	2½	Poor	Ceylon is insufficiently represented, coolies emigrate in large numbers to Penang and Assam, as they say they get higher wages.
	Krishnagiri ...	Good	4	2½	Poor	The same remarks as for Hosur Taluk.
	Attur ...	Moderate	4 in town 3 in surrounding villages.	3 2½	Moderate	Ploughing and sowing are going on in most villages at present. People are emigrating to Penang and Strait Settlements from several villages, in preference to Ceylon, on account of the higher wages. Labour is available in parts if recruited on Doraikanack. My report of July tour will give full details of this Taluk.
	Dharmapuri ...	Bad	5	3	Good	Coolies are reported to be available and recruiting prospects appear to be favourable for the next few months.
	Namakkal ...	Moderate	3 to 4	2 to 3	Moderate	There has been rain in this Taluk during last month and this, and coolies are therefore busily engaged with their lands; recruiting is therefore not likely to be very brisk in the near future.
Trichy	Musiri ...		6 to 8	2½ to 3 in Town	Moderate	Several coolies have returned from Penang with large savings and encourage a great many more to go there. Kanganyies are reported to pay large sums for the labour they recruit.
	Kulutalai ...		4 to 5	2 to 2½ in villages		
	Perambalur ...	Moderate in some parts and very fair in others	4	1½ to 2 for children		
	Tirupathur ...	Poor	2	2 children 2½	Fair	Rain has been very scarce and even an insufficiency of drinking water is reported. Large numbers go to Penang from this Taluk. Labour is available owing to the poor circumstances.
North Arcot...	Kuppan (Kangundi Zemindari)	Most of the grains are being sown.	4 to 5	3	Moderate	There is not very much labour available at present and a large number of coolies are going to Penang. Most of the Kanganyies resorting to this Agency recruit in the Mysore State.
	Mysore ...	Good	5	3	Moderate	There has been rain in Mysore, Nanjangud, Gundlupet Taluks. In Chamrajanagar and Nagamangalam there has been no rain. Some labour is available and crops are not in a good state.
Mysore	Nanjangud ...	Fair	4	2½	do	In T. Narasipur, Seringapatam and French Rocks there has been good rain.
	Gundlupet ...	do	3½	2	do	
	Chamrajanagar ...	do	4	2½	do	
	T. Narasipur ...	do	4	2½	do	
	Seringapatam ...	Good	5	2½	Bad	
	French Rocks ...	do	3½	2	do	
	Nagamangalam	Bad	2½	1	do	

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
Salem Circle.

**AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st
DECEMBER, 1913.**

Colombo, 30th April, 1914.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

DEAR SIR,

We beg to hand you herewith the accounts which we have prepared as at 31st December last together with our reports upon them addressed to the Chairman of the Planters' Association of Ceylon.

John Still, Esq.,

Yours, &c.,

Secretary, (Signed) FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & CO.
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

Colombo, 30th April, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

Having completed our audit of the accounts relative to the above for the six months ending 31st December, 1913, we beg to hand you herewith, duly certified, the following statements:—

LABOUR AGENCY No. 1 ACCOUNT.

Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1913.

Detailed Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1913.

Summarised Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1913.

LABOUR AGENCY No. 2. ACCOUNT.

Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1913.

The summarised statement of revenue and expenditure is intended for publication. The detailed statement has been prepared for your own information.

We now beg to report upon the accounts.

LABOUR AGENCY No. 1 ACCOUNT.

In accordance with instructions received from the Secretary of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, in a letter dated 19th December last, the sum of Rs. 12,000 standing at the debit of Mangoomull Jessasing Sait has been written off out of the sundry profits made in Trichinopoly.

The balance shown to be due by your late Commissioner, Mr. Norman Rowsell, is shown to be Rs. 23,398.10.7, which sum is made up as follows:—

Balance brought forward from 31st December, 1912	Rs. 22,774.11. 8
Interest to 31st December, 1913, on security deposits received by Mr. Rowsell	518. 4.11
Cash balance at Coconada Agency not accounted for by Narasama Naidu but deducted by the late Ceylon Labour Commissioner when settling his accounts	105.10. 0
	<u>Rs. 23,398.10. 7</u>

We may point out that the balance is increasing from time to time due to the account being debited with the interest due on the security deposits received by him.

The sum of Rs. 1,000 is still standing at the debit of Mr. H. Farquharson. We are informed that the Accountant has received instructions from Kandy to carry this amount forward.

At the 31st December the balance at credit of the current account at the Bank of Madras amounted to Rs. 4,406.6.11. We have reconciled this balance by checking the entries in detail for the month of December, and we have seen the usual banker's certificate. We have also agreed the balance of Rs. 10,450 at the Bank of Madras, Employees' Security Account.

We have had produced to us an inventory of Furniture, Camp Equipment, etc., in the custody of the Ceylon Labour Commission. Mr. Scoble Nicholson has certified that the selling price of the same to be not less than Rs. 16,000, which figure has been incorporated in the accounts.

LABOUR AGENCY No. 2 ACCOUNT.

On the 25th February last we counted the cash in hand which we found to agree with the balance as shown on that date by the Cash Book and Petty Cash Book.

We have reconciled the balance at the credit of the current account at the Bank of Madras which at 31st December last was Rs. 181,594.0.7. We have also seen the usual banker's certificate.

The supply bills on hand were produced to us on the 25th February and we agreed the same with the balance shown in the ledger account as at that date. As usual, we have seen that all supply bills have been duly accounted for.

The cash in hands of the Agents at 31st December last amounted to Rs. 12,175.0.6. We have reconciled this sum with the Agents signed returns.

The sum of Rs. 200.5.0 is shown to be due by Krishnaswami Naidu who is in the employ of the Commission. This amount, being recovered at the rate of Rs. 10 per mensem.

The balance due by the South Indian Railway is shown to be Rs. 772.13.10. We have agreed this amount with the account submitted by the Railway.

The amount due to the Labour Commission at 31st December last from sundry Estates is shown to be Rs. 8,898.9.11. We are informed that this sum on the 11th March had been reduced to Rs. 344.4.3 including a disputed amount of Rs. 314.4.6 with Harrired Estate which we understand has been referred to the Secretary of the Planters' Association of Ceylon to be dealt with.

The total amount due by the Commission to sundry Estates at 31st December last was Rs. 208,725.9.3. We have checked the ledger balances, and, in addition, we have checked in detail a selection of the Estate accounts in the various ledgers. We are at present vouching the balances with the Superintendent's certificates, and in due course we shall submit to the Commission a list of Estates from whom certificates have not been received.

Our audit work has been conducted on the usual lines, and we have pleasure in stating that we have found the books in excellent order and neatly and accurately written up. We have suggested certain alterations in the method of keeping the detailed accounts in the Ledgers, and these suggestions are being carried out this year.

The Chairman,

We are, &c.,

P.A. of Ceylon, (Signed) FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & CO.
Kandy.

COAST AGENCY.

Colombo, 30th April, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

We beg to hand you herewith, duly certified, the Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1913, together with the Revenue and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to that date.

It will be noted that the value of the Furniture, Camp Equipment, etc., in the custody of the Ceylon Labour Commission is now shown to be Rs. 16,000. We have seen a detailed inventory and Mr. Scoble Nicholson has certified the selling price to be not less than Rs. 16,000, which sum has therefore been incorporated in the accounts.

We have verified the balance of Rs. 23,767.14 at the credit of the current account at the Mercantile Bank of India, Colombo.

The sum of Rs. 20,601.50 is shown to be due by the Ceylon Labour Commission, Trichinopoly, which is in agreement with the balance shown to be due to the Coast Agency in the books of the Labour Commission, but we would point out that, included amongst the assets of the Labour Commission, is the sum of Rs. 23,398.10.7 due by Mr. Rowsell.

The amount contributed to the Planters' Association by the Coast Agency for office expenses in 1913 was Rs. 6,215.28, but the actual contribution, should only have been Rs. 5,770.67. The amount over-contributed viz., Rs. 444.61 will be deducted from the current year's contribution.

The total subscriptions received during the past year amounted to Rs. 177,319.11, which sum we have verified from the counterfoil receipts. We would point out that the present register is written up from the counterfoils, but we suggest that a further register should be prepared which would record the Estates liable to contribute to the Coast Agency Funds.

John Still, Esq.,

We are, &c.,

Secretary (Signed) FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & CO.

P. A. of Ceylon, Kandy.

COAST AGENCY.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 7th May, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of yours of the 30th ultimo together with your Report and Balance Sheet also Revenue and Expenditure Account to 31st December, 1913, for which I am much obliged.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

I have also to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 30th ultimo addressed to the Chairman, together with Statements of the Ceylon Labour Commission Accounts, for which I thank you.

Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co., Yours, &c.,
Colombo. (Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.—LABOUR AGENCY No. 1 ACCOUNT.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1913.

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	REVENUE.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
TO SALARIES—													
Head Office Salaries	71,377	12	11				BY BALANCE DUE TO PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON, KANDY, ON 1ST JANUARY, 1913 ...				1,961	1	6
Out Agencies	45,098	7	8	116,476	4	7							
„ RENTS—							„ CASH RECEIVED FROM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1913	203,650	0	0			
Head Office and Bungalows	7,805	0	0				„ DISBURSEMENTS MADE FROM KANDY OFFICE	5,449	10	10	209,099	10	10
Out Agencies	5,582	9	3	13,387	9	3	„ PROFIT ON MEALS SUPPLIED ...				9,723	7	0
„ OUTFIT—							„ FEES CHARGED ON BOLTING CASES				9,736	0	0
Cost of Furniture supplied to Bungalows, Outagencies and Head Office, Motor Car, Bicycles, New parts for Motor Cycles, including expenditure at Depot on Glow Lamps, Posts, Water Cart, Distemper Spraying Machine, Firebricks and Clay for construction of Incinerators, etc.				9,836	13	10	„ CADDY RENTS OF TRICHINOPOLY DEPOT ...				541	10	8
„ CONTINGENCY—							„ SUNDRY INTEREST RECEIVED ...				2,417	13	9
Travelling expenses of Commissioner, Assistants and Agents including upkeep and running costs of Motor Car and Cycles, Medical Fees and Drugs for Coolies at Depot, upkeep of Bungalows, Buildings and Depot, Municipal Taxes, Legal Expenses, Fees in connection with Native Banker Case, Postal Insurance and Remittance Charges, etc.				43,426	13	6	„ PURCHASES COMMISSION ACCOUNT ...				59	2	0
„ PRINTING AND STATIONERY				9,407	1	9	„ SUNDRY AMOUNTS WHICH CANNOT BE REMITTED TO OUT AGENCIES				0	0	5
„ POSTAGES AND TELEGRAMS				8,403	1	7	„ BOOK DIFFERENCE No 2 A/c TRANSFERRED				0	6	6
„ AMOUNT WRITTEN OFF BEING AT DEBIT OF MANGOOMULL JESSASSING SAIT NATIVE BANKER NOT RECOVERABLE				12,000	0	0							
„ BALANCE, BEING AMOUNT DUE TO PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON				20,601	8	2							
				Rs. 233,539	4	8					Rs. 233,539	4	8

Audited and found correct as per our report of this date.

(Signed) FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & Co.,

Colombo, 30th April, 1914.

Chartered Accountants.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.—LABOUR AGENCY No. 1 ACCOUNT.
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.

REVENUE.	June, 1913		Dec., 1913.		TOTAL.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
TO BALANCE DUE TO PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON, KANDY, ON 1st JANUARY, 1913.					1,961 1 6
" CASH RECEIVED FROM PLANTERS ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON from January to Dec., 1913. ...	102,500 0 0	102,500 0 0	101,150 0 0		
Add Disbursements made from Kandy Office 5,513 10 10 ...					
Less Cost of Presidency Maps supplied to Kandy 64 0 0 ...			5,449 10 10		
	102,500 0 0	106,599 10 10			209,099 10 10
" FEES CHARGED ON BOLTING CASES					9,736 0 0
" PROFIT ON MEALS SUPPLIED					9,723 7 0
" CADDY RENTS OF TRICHINOPOLY DEPOT...					591 10 8
" SUNDRY INTEREST RECEIVED					2,417 13 9
" PURCHASES COMMISSION ACCOUNT					59 2 0
" BOOK DIFFERENCE NO. 2 ACCOUNT TRANSFERRED					6 6
" SUNDRY AMOUNTS WHICH CANNOT BE REMITTED TO OUTAGENCIES					5
EXPENDITURE.					
By SALARIES:—					
Commissioner	9,000 0 0	9,000 0 0	9,000 0 0		
Accountant	4,500 0 0	4,750 0 0			
Deputy Commissioner	3,750 0 0	3,750 0 0			
2nd Assistant Commissioner	3,550 0 0	3,600 0 0			
3rd do	3,200 0 0	3,600 0 0			
4th do	2,842 13 9	2,800 5 0			
Deputy and Assist. Commiss. Orderlies and Clerks	405 0 0	662 0 0			
Head Office Staff	7,314 1 5	8,653 13 9			
	34,561 15 2	36,815 13 9			71,377 12 11
By AGENCY SALARIES:—					
Trichinopoly	5,161 10 2	6,066 7 5			
Do Temporary Establishment	462 0 0	464 8 0			
Annapattam	544 3 0	568 11 3			
Arkonam	386 10 8	251 8 3			
Bangalore now Kuppam	664 3 0	629 0 0			
Chingleput	129 0 1				
Cocanada	324 0 0	453 5 6			
Cuddapah	585 0 0	539 8 10			
Dindigul	607 3 1	662 5 4			
Erode	364 13 3	441 5 9			
Guntur	317 0 0	335 3 2			
Guntakal	112 12 0				
Hubli	180 0 0	201 9 6			
Jolarpet	607 15 0	641 1 9			
Katpadi	557 1 0	456 7 3			
Karur	638 5 7	905 10 8			
Madura	298 2 9	334 12 10			
Madras	485 11 0	509 0 0			
Musiri	615 8 0	480 7 7			
Manapalai	319 0 6	235 15 9			
Nellore	634 14 1	663 6 6			
Puducottah	240 9 3	249 3 3			
Panlvan	360 0 0	380 7 0			
Pha'ghat	911 2 3	833 14 0			
Salem and Sub-Agencies	598 0 0	664 8 1			
Tatiparai	526 13 3	590 0 1			
Tanjore	361 1 0	429 2 9			
Tinnevely	342 0 0	341 2 9			
Turaiyur	478 3 0	609 12 7			
Tondi	284 0 0	284 8 0			
Villupuram	228 0 0	203 0 6			
Atur	248 0 0	294 4 0			
Chittoor	285 8 6	447 4 0			
Dharmapuri	138 3 6				
Namakal	237 0 0	320 2 9			
Tirur	197 0 0	279 12 0			
Tirupattur	319 14 0	308 0 0			
Nanjangode	131 7 9	199 0 0			
Cannanore	236 13 8	213 6 9			
Villupuram Transporting Agency	319 12 0	238 6 5			
Tuticorin Jetty Agency	420 9 3	161 5 4			
Tatiparai Agency Clerical Staff					
Travelling Agents	51,671 8 7	23,427 6 1			46,098 7 8

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.—LABOUR AGENCY No. 1 ACCOUNT.
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1913.—(Continued)

REVENUE.	Total. Rs. A. P.	EXPENDITURE.	June, 1913. Rs. A. P.	Dec., 1913. Rs. A. P.	Total. Rs. A. P.
Forward...	233,539 4 8			Forward...	116,476 4 7
		By RENTS :—			
		Commissioner, Accountant, Head Office			
		and Trichy Offices, Segregation Camp,			
		Feeding House, etc. ...	2,484 0 0	2,821 0 0	
		Deputy Commissioner and ... Assistant			
		Commissioner's Bungalows ...	1,250 0 0	1,250 0 0	
		Out Agencies and Depots ...	2,751 0 0	2,831 9 3	
			6,485 0 0	6,902 9 3	13,387 9 3
		“ OUTFIT :—			
		Bungalow Furniture ...	834 3 0	791 12 8	
		Furniture supplied to Agencies ...	759 9 5	233 12 6	
		Expenditure on Depot being cost of Pipes,			
		Lamp Posts, Washington Glow Lamps,			
		Water Cart, Distemper, Spraying			
		Machine, Firebricks, Clay, etc., including	1,766 3 3	309 4 0	
		cost of construction of Incinerators, etc.		222 4 0	
		Cost of 2 Bicycles ...			
		Camp Furniture, including 2 Typewriters			
		supplied to 2nd and 3rd Assistant Com-			
		missioners ...	428 1 0	284 0 0	
		Office Furniture, including cost of Type-			
		writers ...	796 0 0	516 1 0	
		Nett Cost of Alldays Motor Car with			
		fittings ...	2,141 0 0		
		Cost of New parts for 2nd Assist : Com-			
		missioner's Motor Cycle ...	135 7 0		
		Cost of 8 Cash Boxes for Agencies ...	65 6 0		
		Head Office and Agency Sundries ...	426 14 0	133 0 0	
			7,346 11 8	2,490 2 2	9,836 13 10
		“ CONTINGENCY :—			
		Commissioner's and Accountant's Carriage			
		Allowance ...	450 0 0	300 0 0	
		Commissioners and Inspection of Agent-			
		cies, including running charges and			
		upkeep of Motor Car ...	1,621 7 7	1,478 4 7	
		Deputy and 3rd Assistant (Commissioner's			
		Travelling and Inspection of Agencies,			
		touring 18 days in a month, including			
		batta, mileage, railfare, running	4,680 7 7	5,194 12 9	
		charges and upkeep of M for Bicycles ...	270 0 11	980 7 10	
		Upkeep of bungalows in Trichinopoly ...			
		Trichy Depot and Segregation Camp up-			
		keep of Buildings ...	1,111 14 4	1,510 9 10	
		Medical Fees at Trichy Depot ...	325 8 0	368 0 0	
		Drugs, instruments and appliances for			
		Depot Dispensary, including disinfectants	512 12 0	298 10 0	
		Municipal Taxes, Telephone Fees and			
		Vehicle Taxes ...	392 5 1	6 12 0	
		Solicitors, Vakils Consultation Fees, etc.	323 4 6	1,510 8 0	
		Travelling Agents Expenses ...	322 7 9	381 7 6	
		Fees, etc., in connection with (ommission			
		and Native Banker Case ...	50 0 0	5,827 3 2	
		Forward...	10 060 3 9	17,856 11 8	139,700 11 8

LIABILITIES	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	ASSETS.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
ESTATES—														
Amount standing to their credit	208,725	9	3								
SUNDRY CREDITORS—														
Amount due to Trichy Depot Meals Caterers, Spencer & Co., Ltd.	2,091	4	0											
Amount due to Tuticorin Forwarding Agency														
Meal Caterer, M. F. Jackson	...	57	9	3										
Amount due to Labour Agency No. 1 Account	7,914	0	1											
Amount due to W. W. Moir	...	27	12	0	10,090	9	4							
<hr/>														
CASH—														
On Current Account														
at Bank of Madras, Madras				...	181,594	0	7							
In hand				...	8,481	12	1							
At Agencies				...	12,175	0	6							
In hand on Petty Cash Accounts...					376	15	7							
Supply Bill on hand					4,000	0	0	206,627	12	9				
<hr/>														
SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY Co., Ltd.—														
Amount due by them account Deposit for Railway Tickets				...				772	13	10				
<hr/>														
SUNDRY DEBTORS—														
Amount due by Trichy Bolting Case advance				...	100	0	0							
Amount due from Accountant General, Madras, on a/c mis-matched Notes...					100	0	0							
Amount due by Krishnaswamy Naidu, Agent at Madura				200	5	0	400	5	0					
<hr/>														
ESTATES PRINTING AND STATIONERY STOCK														
Value of Stock at 31st Dec., 1913					1,916	15	7							
<hr/>														
SUPERINTENDENT OF TELEGRAPHS, TRICHY—														
Amount due by him a/c Deposit for Telegrams				...				199	9	6				
<hr/>														
ESTATES—														
Amount due by them				...	8,898	9	11							
<hr/>														
Rs. 218,816 2 7														

Audited and found correct as per our report of this
date. (Signed) FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & Co.,
Chartered Accountants.
Colombo, 30th April, 1914.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY, SOUTH INDIA

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	A.	P.	ASSETS.	Rs.	A.	P.
To PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON—				By FURNITURE, CAMP EQUIPMENT,			
Capital Account ...	16,000	0	0	MOTOR CAR AND MOTOR CYCLES,			
„ SUNDRY CREDITORS—				as per Valuation ...	16,000	0	0
Munia Pillai Works Rs. A. P.				„ H. FARQUHARSON LOAN ACCOUNT ...	1,000	0	0
Contractor ... 319 1 0				„ COMMISSIONER'S AND ASSISTANTS			
Addison & Co., Madras 337 6 6				TRAVELLING EXPENSES ADVANCE			
St. Joseph's Industrial				ACCOUNT ...	550	0	0
School Press ... 126 9 0				„ SUNDRY DEBTORS—			
Spencer & Co., Ltd. ... 232 7 6				Sivaji Row, Colombo, Rs. A. P.			
Ford, Rhodes, Church				Jetty Agent 50 0 0			
& Co. 2,038 0 0				D. J. Deva Doss, late			
Jegam & Co., Ltd. ... 29 4 0				Cannanore Agent 1 0 0			
Hoe & Co. ... 74 5 0				C. R. Paranjothy, late			
S. P. C. K. Press ... 52 6 0				Madura Agent 450 0 0			
Govindasamy Naidu,				Head Office Building			
late Special Travel-				Landlord Account 128 1 9			
ling Agent ... 9 13 0				Rengaswamy Muda-			
December Salaries and				liyar Relieving Agent 15 0 0			
Rents due to				Syed Mohideen, late			
Agencies ... 256 8 0				Madura Agent 299 8 6			
Sundry, as per				Doraiswamy Pillai,			
Schedule A. 2,162 11 10	5,638	7	10	late Assistant			
„ AMOUNT DUE TO AGENCIES, being				Agent, Arkonam 200 0 0	1,143	10	3
Contingent Bills, as per Schedule B. 804 12 2				„ LABOUR AGENCY No. 2 ACCOUNT	7,914	0	1
„ AMOUNTS DUE TO AGENTS WHO HAVE				„ PAYMENT IN ADVANCE ...	409	4	6
LEFT SERVICE ... 1,764 1 7				„ SUNDRY OFFICE STOCK ...	1,708	3	9
„ AGENTS SECURITY DEPOSITS—				„ CASH AT BANK OF MADRAS—			
Received by the Com- Rs. A. P.				On Current Account 4,406 6 11			
mission 10,450 0 0				„ Employees' Secu-			
do Norman				rity Account 10,450 0 0	14,856	6	11
Rowse 11,200 0 0				„ NORMAN ROWSELL, LATE CEYLON			
Interest due on them 7 7 6	21,657	7	6	LABOUR COMMISSIONER, Account as			
„ FINES ACCOUNT ... 180 12 5				per Schedule C. attached ...	23,398	10	7
„ PETTY CASH No. 2 ACCOUNT ... 333 2 5							
„ AMOUNT DUE TO THE PLANTERS'							
ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON, as per							
Revenue and Expenditure A/c 20,601 8 2							
	Rs. 66,980	4	1		Rs. 66,980	4	1

Audited and found correct as per our report of this date.

(Signed) FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & Co.,

Colombo, 30th April, 1914.

Chartered Accountants.

COAST AGENCY.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION ACCOUNT.

LIABILITIES.	Rs. c.	ASSETS.	Rs. c.
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	16,000 00	CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION. For value of Furniture, Camp Equipment, Motor Car and Motor Cycles, etc.	16,000 00
SUNDRY CREDITORS— Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co. ...	150 00	CASH AT MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD., COLOMBO	23,717 14
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT— Balance at Credit	44,218 64	AMOUNT DUE BY THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER, TRICHINOPOLY, SOUTH INDIA	20,601 50
	Rs. 60,368 64		Rs. 60,368 64

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

EXPENDITURE.	Rs. c.	REVENUE.	Rs. c.
1913. Dec. 31. To LABOUR COMMISSIONER'S EXPEN- DITURE	190,523 35	1913. Dec. 31. By BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM LAST ACCOUNT	63,392 52
„ VOTE TO PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION ACCOUNT —		„ SUBSCRIPTION ACCOUNT	177,319 11
Office Expenses, 1913	6,215 28	„ EXCHANGE ACCOUNT being differ- ence in exchange Kandy and South India	08
„ AUDIT FEES 1912 and 1913 ...	300 00	„ BANK INTEREST AND SUNDRY RECEIPTS	550 68
„ SUNDRY CHARGES	5 12		
„ Balance, as per Balance Sheet	44,218 64		
	Rs. 241,262 39		Rs. 241,262 39

Audited and found correct.

(Signed) FORD, RHODES, CHURCH & Co.,

Colombo, 30th April, 1914.

Chartered Accountants.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month ending July, 1914.

DETAIL.		Instructional Staff.																							REMARKS.	
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Tpts.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. M. Instructor.		Total.
Regtl. Staff		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	3	8	1	1	1	3	
A. Squadron																										
Staff	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	22	27	28	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	5	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	17	20	21	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	3	1	19	29	30	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	6	6	2	62	83	88	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron																										
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	9	13	14	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	9	10	10	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	19	22	23	...	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	5	8	9	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	3	2	42	56	61	...	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	8	...	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	6	6	2	62	83	88	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	3	2	42	56	61	...	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	...	2	2	8	1	2	9	8	4	104	142	157	1	1	1	3	
Total Strength last Return	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	...	2	2	7	1	2	9	8	2	106	141	156	...	...	...	...
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sqms.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	3	
Wanting to Complete	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	1	...	2	3	...	...	4	...	4	80	92	95	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	1	1	2	6	...	10	1	1	1	1	...	8	...	...	2	1	1	32	48	58	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve	...	2	4	5	13	1	25	2	2	1	3	2	16	1	2	11	9	5	136	190	215	1	1	1	3	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 1914.

Cor.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.											Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff	Coy. Strength.				
		Staff	Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Sergeant Major.	Quartermaster Sergeant.	Colour-Sergeant.			Sergeant.	Lance-Sergeants & Corporals.	Sergeant-Major.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.
	Staff	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	4
A.	Kelani Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	37	...	43
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	13
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	9
B.	Kandy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	21
	Matale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	15
	Madulakelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	10
	Rangalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	12
C.	Mattakelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	10
	Agrapalua	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	11
	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	12
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	4
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	11
	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	6
D.	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	12
	Madulima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	11
	Haputale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	13
	Badulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	23
	Uda Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	10
E.	Batticaloa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	11
	Kalutara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	...	27
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	19
	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	21
	Anuradhapura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	14
F.	Trincomalee	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	4
	Colombo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	...	50
G.	Ambegamuwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	12
	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	19
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	15
H.	Colombo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	...	57
	Motor Cycle Section	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	18
* TOTAL STRENGTH			1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1	6	19	25	1	5	428	513	513
Strength by last Return		...	1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1	6	19	26	1	5	419	504	
Increase Since		...														9		
Decrease Since		...																
* C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File		...						55	=	64	Increase	...			9			
Total Strength including Reserve		...						577			Reserve	...			Nil			

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adjt. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

THE CEYLON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY PRICE CURRENT.

STATEMENT OF EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

No. 32

COLOMBO, MONDAY, 24th AUGUST, 1914.

RICE.						Rs.	Cts.	@	Rs.	Cts.
Muttusamba No. 1 (without bags) per bushel F O. R. Colombo	...	...	...	...	...	6	50	"	7	00
" " 2	"	"	"	"	"	6	00	"	6	50
" " 3	"	"	"	"	"	5	00	"	6	00
Soolaye " 1	"	"	"	"	"	5	15	"	5	40
" " 2	"	"	"	"	"	5	10	"	5	15
" " 3	"	"	"	"	"	5	00	"	5	05
" Kara	"	"	"	"	"	4	83	"	4	95
Silhet (Hari Kali)	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Pegu & Calcutta Calunda	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	5	00
Coast Calunda	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Coast Kara	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Kadappa and Kuruwe	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Rangoon Raw	"	per 3 bushel bag	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...



PUNDALUOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the above Association was held on Thursday, July 30th, at the Club.

Present:—J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman), H. J. Marcel, H. L. Egan, F. E. Paulet, G. B. Stuart; visitors: Messrs. Vowler and Gibson; C. Owen (Honorary Secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

The accounts for last year were passed, and it was agreed to subscribe Rs. 10 to the Ceylon S. P. C. A. out of last year's balance.

Read a letter from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., re rice, samples of which were tabled. As their letter contained no price quotations, there was no discussion.

A resolution from the Kegalle P. A. was discussed in Committee.

A letter from the Secretary, P.A., was also read in Committee re infantile mortality.

A resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P.A. re the honorary supervision of liquor taverns by Europeans was read, and it was decided that this Association do give it their support.

STATE OF DISTRICT ROADS.

Letters from the Director of Public Works and the District Engineer were read, but as they were considered unsatisfactory, the Hon. Secretary was asked to forward another letter, which was drafted at the meeting, re the state of roads in the district.

COOLIES BOLTING TO THE COAST.

The following resolution by Mr. Sidgwick:—"That, owing to the railway being now through to India, and the possibility of coolies bolting to the coast after receiving their pay that every cooly going to coast should produce a pass from the Superintendent, and that any cooly failing to produce such pass shall not be allowed to book through to India.

Mr. SIDGWICK, in speaking to his resolution, said that, although the new railway was an undoubted boon to the Island, it also provided an extremely easy and inexpensive way of bolting for coolies who owed a lot of money, and who had been refused leave by their Superintendents to go to the coast. Any cooly who had received good pay, could now bolt during the night to the nearest station and book straight through to India, without any chance of being stopped. He considered that every estate cooly should be made to show a pass from the superintendent.

MR. STUART SECONDED.

Mr. MARCEL said that he considered it impossible for any station master to discriminate between an estate cooly and any other cooly. There were many Tamils who were not estate labourers, who wished to travel to India, and it would be impossible to make them all produce passes.

After a lengthy discussion the following amendment was proposed by Mr. EGAN:—"That, owing to the railway being now open to India, could the Parent Association be asked whether they could see their way to elaborating some scheme for preventing estate coolies from bolting to coast without leave, especially by rail."

Seconded by Mr. PAULET and carried unanimously.

It was further resolved that this resolution should be forwarded to other district Associations for their support.

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

C. OWEN, Hon. Secretary

RAMBODA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Association was held at Ramboda Resthouse on the 19th July, at 9-30 a.m. Present:—Messrs. N. C. Rolt (Chairman), W. de Lemos, C. J. Marzette, P. L. Steuart, C. W. Newton, H. D. Bartlett, H. J. Marcel, C. A. Hunter (visitor) and A. F. Howie (Hon. Secretary).

Mr. de Lemos proposed and Mr. Newton seconded that Mr. J. H. Marcel be nominated for the office of J. P. and U.P.M.—Carried.

The case of the cooly Umayan of Frotoft estate having been brought before the meeting, it was resolved that the Superintendent of Mandapam Camp be written to, requesting that more care be taken in the case of single coolies passing through the Camp.

Read letter from the Nuwara Eliya Association with reference to Baker's Ward. A subscription list was circulated at the meeting.

Read letters from the Assistant Government Agent and the Director of Public Works informing the Association that the roads from Nuwara Eliya to Ramboda and from Gampola bridge to Pussellawa were open to motor traffic, but that motor lorries would not be allowed over Gampola bridge.

Read letter from the Sabaragamuwa Association with reference to the inspection of taverns. This being an important question, it was resolved to leave it to the Parent Association, but the meeting was not in favour of the proposal.

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

A. F. HOWIE,
Hon. Secretary.

NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting was held at the Hill Club, Nuwara Eliya, on 18th July 1914, at 2-30 p.m., preceded by a Committee meeting at 2 p.m.

Present:—Messrs. A. J. Volum (Chairman), N. W. Davies, E. C. Elliott, W. P. Spurway, David H. Young, L. O. Gilliat, W. R. Matthew, A. L. Sinclair, R. I. Hughes, H. J. Temple, and R. F. Megginson (Hon. Secretary), and as visitors Messrs. R. K. Clark, James Forbes, jun., C. W. Newton, William Arthur Gordon and H. R. Adair.

The notice convening the meeting was read, and the minutes of last general meeting were read and confirmed.

THE BAKER WARD.

The Chairman said they had to consider how the fund raised by subscription in aid of the Baker Ward should be spent.

The Hon. Secretary announced that so far the support forthcoming was as follows:—

Nuwara Eliya D. P. A. paid and promised	Rs. 135.00
Dimbula P. A. paid	Rs. 85.00
Maturata P. A. promised	Rs. 35.00
Total	Rs. 255.00

and the Udupussellawa list in aid of the same object had not yet been closed, he had also to receive the list forwarded to the Ramboda Association, the original of which had been lost in the post. He expected that when the lists were finally closed they would have a sum between Rs. 350 and Rs. 400 available.

Mr. Elliott remarked that a sum of Rs. 44 from the amount already collected had been spent.

Mr. Spurway said they could guarantee a sum of Rs. 350 and proposed that Government be approached and asked whether they would contribute a similar sum.

The Chairman inquired whether it would be necessary to spend Rs. 700 for additional comforts at the Ward.

It was then resolved to ask Government to contribute Rs. 350, pointing out that the association guaranteed a similar amount.

It was also resolved on the proposition of Mr. Megginson, seconded by Mr. Spurway, that the hospital visitors prepare a list of what is urgently required for the ward, after consulting the District Medical Officer, and the matron of the Baker Ward, and the necessities suggested be purchased as far as funds would allow.

ROADS.

Read letter from P.R.C., Uva.

MOTOR LORRY TRAFFIC.

Mr. Megginson read the following letter from the Government Agent, Nuwara Eliya.

Subject—Motor Lorry Traffic.

Nuwara Eliya Kacheheri,

June 9th, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that Government is prepared to permit the use of Motor lorries on the road from Nuwara Eliya to Hakgala and Nuwara Eliya to Ramboda subject to compliance with the regulations dated August 4th, 1910, modified as follows:—

Regulation 56 (c) to read "The weight of lorries and load shall not exceed 4½ tons."

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. W. SEYMOUR,

A. G. A.

Mr. Spurway referring to the above letter inquired whether the Nanuoya road was open to Motor lorry traffic, as he had seen a lorry on that road. No information was available on this point.

ROADS.

The Chairman next called upon the Honorary Secretary to read a letter they had received from the District Engineer, Nuwara Eliya, which was as follows:—

April 23rd, 1914

From THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, Nuwara Eliya.

To THE HONORARY SECRETARY, Planters' Association.
SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter under reference and to reply as follows:—

1. "Larger Bridge on Hospital old approach road." In view of the fact that a vote has been asked for in the next year supply bill for new cart road from the Lady McCallum Drive to the Baker Ward and second a bridge of 14' 10" roadway width being in course of construction on the Hospital new approach road. I would suggest that the Association do not proceed with their resolution. Admittedly the existing bridge is rather narrow but once the new approach road is again open there will be no necessity for cars to use the old approach road.

Of course if the Association still consider the widening of the bridge is desirable, I suggest that the matter be brought up in March, 1915, for consideration in the 1915 supply bill. At present there is far too much work in hand to undertake these improvements.

2. "Culvert $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile Udupussellawa road." I will prepare plans and place the matter before the Provincial Engineer, Central Province, on his next visit to this District.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
A. N. ROBERTSON,
District Engineer.

The Chairman proposed that the Association might drop the matter, relating to the widening of the bridge on the old approach road to the hospital, as suggested by the District Engineer.

Mr. Spurway seconded.—Carried.

Mr. Elliott proposed that a letter be sent to the District Engineer, informing him that the association was withdrawing its resolution regarding the widening of the bridge and that he be thanked for promising to prepare plans for the culvert on the $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile post on the Udupussellawa road, and lay the same before the Provincial Engineer on his next visit.

Mr. Spurway seconded.—Carried.

CONNECTING ST. MARGARET'S KIRKLEES ROAD WITH WELIMADE.

The Chairman said a letter had been received from the Honorary Secretary of the Udupussellawa Planters' Association, inviting their support to connect the St. Margaret's—Kirklees road with Welimade, as it would be an alternative route between Badulla and Nuwara Eliya at any time the Wilson's Bungalow road should be blocked.

Mr. Spurway suggested that in view of more pressing works, the matter be left over, for the present, and that the

Udupussellawa Planters' Association be informed that the Nuwara Eliya Association regrets its inability to support their resolution.

Mr. Davies seconded.—Carried.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

The Secretary read the following letter received from the Ceylon Government railway, in reply to the resolution passed at their previous meeting requesting the C. G. R. to provide special slides for loading and unloading liquid fuel barrels at Kandapolla station:—

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office.
Colombo, July 11th, 1914

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 22nd April, I have the honour to state that the loading of oil drums at Nanuoya is done at the Bulk Petroleum Installation direct into wagons with the help of "loading boards" specially constructed, and empties are removed by the coolies from the Railway warehouse to the premises of the Bulk Petroleum Installation.

At Kandapola, where no such boards are available, it has been the practice to carry the barrels from the wagons to the shed by our coolies, and as traffic is very light at this station, I do not see that there is any call for supplying special slides.

I am, etc.,
D. McMILLAN,
Acting General Manager.

Mr. Spurway said he was surprised at the statement made by the railway. A barrel of liquid fuel, the speaker said, weighed over four hundred pounds, and it was not easy for coolies to move them out.

Mr. Megginson stated that according to the practice in vogue at present, coolies usually rolled the barrels from the trucks to the ground, and then rolled them into the goods shed and as a result the barrels got damaged badly.

The meeting was unanimously of opinion that it was a physical impossibility for a coolie to unload a barrel of liquid fuel without the aid of a slide, and decided that the railway be asked to provide a slide of some sort for the purpose at Kandapolla.

CONGESTION OF GOODS AT NANUOYA.

The meeting resolved to support the resolution from the Maturatta P.A. relating to the congestion of goods at the Nanuoya goods shed.

RICE.

The Hon. Secretary said he had received a letter from Messrs. Delmege, Forsythe and Co., with quotations and samples of twelve qualities of coolie rice. In this connection he said he had written to them asking for further information, but had received no reply.

Mr. Spurway said in view of the fact that Messrs. Delmege, Forsythe and Co., had not the courtesy to reply no further notice be taken of the matter.

Mr. Hughes seconded.—Carried.

S. P. C. A.

The CHAIRMAN said a reminder had been received from the S. P. C. A., for the Rs. 10 the association annually subscribed.

It was resolved to continue supporting the S. P. C. A. with their annual contribution.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The CHAIRMAN said the Secretary had received several telegrams, etc., from the A. G. A. intimating the outbreak of Cholera in various localities, and requesting that the members of the association be informed of the fact.

Mr. ELLIOTT remarked that it required a deal of labour, circularising the members of the association of these outbreaks. In addition to the labour involved it was pointed out that the association had to spend on postages and stationery.

It was resolved that Government be informed, that if they require the association to attend to this work in future, the association should be provided with a supply of stationery and "On H. M. S." envelopes.

REVISED LIST OF VOTERS.

The HON. SECRETARY mentioned that he had received a letter from the A. G. A., Nuwara Eliya, for a revised list of voters, which he had forwarded, deleting the names of those who had left the district, and adding the names of those who had come in.

JAVA RUBBER EXHIBITION.

The CHAIRMAN said they had received a circular from the Parent Association inquiring whether this association favoured the idea of sending a delegate of the Ceylon Planters' Association to the forthcoming Java Rubber Exhibition.

It was resolved to support the proposal of the Parent Association.

DISTRICT LABOUR FEDERATION.

The HON. SECRETARY said he had received a letter from the Udapussellawa P. A. inquiring whether this association was still willing to join in their local labour federation, and if so, requesting to be furnished with a list of the estates willing to be members for 1914-1915.

The CHAIRMAN said he was under the impression that they had joined the federation indefinitely.

Mr. MEGGINSON stated that, judging their letter, it was meant for a year, from the 1st July, 1913, to 30th June, 1914. They resolved to join at their meeting held on the 6th December last.

Mr. DAVIES said they had joined for a year, and it was understood it was the current year.

Mr. ELLIOTT inquired if there was any clause in the rules of the federation to show when their year ended.

Mr. MEGGINSON, having referred to the rules, said there was none.

Mr. ELLIOTT said in that case there were some deficiencies in the rules which should be supplied. He also pointed out that the rules for withdrawing from federation were not very clear, and that it was desirable to see that these rules are amended before they rejoined.

Mr. DAVIES proposed that the Hon. Secretary be asked to write to the Udapussellawa P. A. regarding the agreement and the length of notice required for withdrawal.

After some further discussion it was unanimously resolved on the proposition of Mr. DAVIES, seconded by Mr. Mathew: That this Association is of the opinion that those members who joined the Udapussellawa Labour Federation were committed till the 31st December, 1914, and that they do not understand the present letter, and ask for further information and explanation, and how long notice of withdrawal is to be given."

ARRACK TAVERNS.

It was resolved to support the Sabragamuwa P. A.'s resolution asking Government for an improved method of inspecting arrack taverns.

Correspondence from the P. A. of Ceylon re anchylos-toniasis was tabled. The Chairman said Pedro, Naseby and Mahagastotta had agreed to experiments on their estates. Naseby had since withdrawn and Edinburgh estate was suggested in its place.

A letter was tabled from the Udapussellawa P. A. supporting the resolution by this Association re approach road to the Baker ward.

TABLED.

Administration Report. Medical Wants Ordinance.

The meeting went into Committee to consider letters from the Parent Association and Kegalle P. A.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

R. F. MEGGINSON,
Hon. Secretary N.E. D.P.A.

PASSARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting was held in the Passara Gun Club Pavilion at 9 a.m. on August 1st. Present:—Messrs. Roger Bannerman (Chairman), James Duncan, Fowler, Norman, and Bernard Strachan (Hon. Secretary). The business to be laid before the general meeting was discussed and arranged.

A general meeting was then held at which were present besides the above:—Messrs. George Stewart, H. Jones, R. E. Cranfield, W. Stewart Taylor, A. W. Bisset, R. Gatehouse, A. V. Hasluck, L. B. Gourley, W. H. Taylor, H. Bremner, and Messrs. A. W. Bowles and J. Lee Booker (visitors). The notice of the meeting was read, and

in this connection the Chairman said that a complaint had been received that insufficient notice of that meeting had been given. The mistake arose from the date of the first notice being a clerical error. The error was corrected as soon as possible and under the circumstances he would ask them to take the meeting as being in order. This was agreed to.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

Correspondence.

Liquid Fuel.

In view of the great inconvenience caused in the district by the shortage in the supply of liquid fuel Mr. DUNCAN proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. NORMAN.

"That this Association urge on Government the necessity of adequate supplies of liquid fuel if the prosperity of the Planting Industry is to be maintained, and that the addition of only six tank wagons proposed by the General Manager, C.G.R., is, in the opinion of this Association, merely playing with the situation.

"That it be suggested, with the object of maintaining the earning capacity of the railway and to obviate the necessity of imposing other taxation, more money be entrusted to the railway department for the provision of additional plant and rolling stock, and less to the Public Works Department, experience showing that the latter department is unable to spend the votes committed to its charge with the resources available at present."

In speaking to the resolution Mr. DUNCAN said that complaints had been rife all over the province and that the matter was one requiring immediate attention. In his own case, if he had not had an old steam engine available he would have had to shut down his factory in the middle of the rush and those present could appreciate what that meant. If the supply of liquid fuel was to remain as at present the development of the province would be retarded and revenue lost to the railway.

Mr. NORMAN also emphasised the seriousness of the situation.

The resolution was carried unanimously and it was decided to send it to the Central Association to be transmitted to the proper quarter.

P. R. C. ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN mentioned that he had received an application for a member for a road grant before the work had been done. It was decided to adhere to the custom of not paying out any grants till the work was completed and vouchers sent in.

C. S. P. C. A.

An annual donation was passed.

BEGGARS IN BAZAARS.

A letter was read from the Government Agent stating that several estate Tamils had been found begging in the bazaars in the province, and asking whether the Association

could suggest any remedy for this state of affairs. It was decided to ask the Government Agent to communicate direct with the Superintendents of estates to which the beggars admitted belonging.

POLL-TAX.

A letter was read from the P. R. Committee asking for the Association's assistance in the matter of collecting the Poll tax. The Committee was in need of funds and there was no doubt that many people evaded the tax annually.

The CHAIRMAN said that if the Association took the matter up it would do so thoroughly, as they all knew at the present moment some of them paid for their horse-keepers, bungalow servants, etc., and some of them did not.

Some discussion arose as to the wording of the Ordinance and the Chairman promised to have full information on the subject ready for the next meeting.

Roads.

PASSARA-NAKKALA ROAD.

The CHAIRMAN mentioned that he had sent all the information available on the subject of this road to the Planting Member of the Road Board, but to date he had received no news as to the result.

P. W. D. UNEXPENDED VOTES.

The CHAIRMAN said they had at last received some of the figures they had asked for in connection with the Annual Votes and Expenditure of the P. W. D. The figures received showed the amounts voted and spent annually on roads in the Island for the last ten years. They were divided into three sections, "maintenance of roads," "new roads," and "improvements to roads." The figures had appeared in the minutes of the last Committee meeting at Kandy, but no remarks were made on the subject and he doubted if they had been analysed. Taking "maintenance of roads" the amount spent for the ten years was only 4 per cent. short of the amount voted. That was quite satisfactory; but the section "new roads" was in a very different position. The average annual amount of the vote unexpended was no less than 35 per cent. which was a scandalous state of affairs. He would like to read the figures for each year. New roads, percentage of vote unexpended; 1903, 44 per cent.; 1904, 25 per cent.; 1905, 23 per cent.; 1906, 29 per cent.; 1907, 45 per cent.; 1908, 56 per cent.; 1909, 48 per cent.; 1910-11, 26 per cent.; 1911-12, 36 per cent.; 1912-13, 27 per cent.

The totals were: voted Rs. 5,512,895, expended Rs. 3,556,458, unexpended Rs. 1,956,436. The section "improvements to roads" was in much the same state, the average annual percentage unspent being 25 per cent. The CHAIRMAN said he would like to know if they considered that a satisfactory state of affairs. There was no doubt that the development of the Island was being seriously retarded by the incapacity of the P.W.D. to spend the money entrusted to them. The figures pointed to that department being some 30 per cent. short of its requisite complement, and it was not as if that state of affairs was

something new. It had held good for the last ten years any way and might for all they knew at present, continue for another ten.

There was one other point he would like to mention. During the ten years under review the amount unexpended was Rs. 4,033,519, which sum might be taken as revenue, and which presumably had gone to swell the surplus balance account. Now the surplus balances were used for revenue-producing works. The point he wished to make was this, that revenue should be used for non-revenue producing works such as roads, hospitals, etc., while paying propositions such as railways should be constructed on loan funds. The present system was unsound finance. He would propose the following resolution:—

"That attention be called to the fact that the Public Works Department are still quite unable to deal with the votes committed to their charge annually. That the proportion of votes on new roads unexpended in the last ten years averaged 35 per cent. per annum, and that during that time no less than Rs. 4,033,219 was unexpended on roads throughout the Island and put to surplus balances. That Government be requested to put the P. W. D. in such a position as to enable that department to spend each year the votes entrusted to its charge.

"That the system of using unexpended votes for revenue-producing works is financially unsound."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

In this connection Mr. DUNCAN pointed out the figures asked for in the original resolution were those showing the amounts voted to and spent by the Public Works Department for the last ten years on all works in the Island, they had only received the figures in connection with roads. He suggested they should put in a request for the rest of the figures.

It was agreed to do this.

Telephones.

Very few replies had been received to the circular sent out in connection with the district telephone scheme, and the Chairman mentioned that the disregard shown by some members to the circulars sent out by the Association was hardly courteous to the officers of the Association. It was decided to reissue the circular and the hope was expressed that all members would respond to it.

Epidemics.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. DUNCAN and seconded by Mr. NORMAN. "That this Association places on record its appreciation of the good work done by the Government Agent and the Provincial Surgeon and their respective staffs in dealing with the recent outbreak of small-pox."

A vote of thanks was also accorded to Mr. Norman, who had constructed the Passara segregation camp at very short notice, and who had also assisted the authorities in every way.

It was decided to ask the Government Agent whether the many Government notifications at present issued through the Association could not be sent direct from his office. It was mentioned that in the case of a serious epidemic valuable time was lost in issuing the notices through the District Association; moreover the Association had not the funds nor its officers the time to do the work.

Hospitals.

The visitor's report on the Lunugalla hospital was read.

LUNUGALLA HOSPITAL REPORT.

Visited 9 a.m., July 29th, 1914.

D.M.O. was in charge.

WARDS.—No. 1, Male Medical Ward, 16 beds, 16 patients; No. 2, Male Diarrhoea Ward, 6 beds, 6 patients; No. 3, Female Medical Ward, 12 beds, 16 patients; No. 4, Female Diarrhoea Ward, 8 beds, 4 patients.

LATRINES.—These were all clean and seemed well cared for.

KITCHEN.—Clean.

GROUND.—In good order.

NEW WARDS.—Two new wards have been started, one of 24 beds and one of 12 beds, these wards will be connected by a covered way. Ample bath room and latrine accommodation will be provided, as well as a soiled linen room for each ward. It is proposed to use these new wards for males, and also the old Male Diarrhoea Wards of 6 beds; the rest of the present wards will be used for females. This arrangement will give 42 male beds and 36 female, total 78 beds, which should be ample accommodation for this hospital. With reference to these new wards, I would draw the attention of this Association to the very slow progress made. The work was started early in March, and at date of my visit 29th July (nearly five months) only 100 feet of 2' by 1' foundation has been finished on one ward, and the site cut for the other. No iron work has arrived, and the D.M.O. informs me that only about six coolies a day have been working since a start was made. I understand that the contractors (Messrs. Walker and Greig, Ltd.), say they are unable to get coolies owing to the small-pox. This seems a very poor excuse, as most of the estates round have been able to get Sinhalese labour.

MORTUARY.—A new mortuary is being built, but very poor progress has been made, only about 2 feet of brick-work being completed so far. This is to take the place of the old building which stands on the site of the new wards; and until this is completed, it will not be possible to demolish the old building, which means there will be further delay with the new wards.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The hospital generally seems to be well cared for and clean; and the patients well looked after.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—It seems to me to be of little use the Hospital Visitors taking the trouble to visit this hospital every month and making suggestions for minor improvements, etc., when none of these are carried out. To mention one thing, some three years ago we suggested that the strip of loose earth between the verandah edge and the cement drain round all the wards, should be cemented. This was approved by the P.C.M.O., and the expenditure sanctioned about two-and-a-half years ago. So far the work has not been touched, the blame seems to lie with the P.W.D. With regard to more store-room accommodation, D.M.O.'s office, and apothecaries quarters, I understand that it is proposed to build a new administration block next year, in which all these will be provided for.

F. FOWLER,

Hospital Visitor.

Yapame, July 29th, 1914.

In a letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, dated May 4th, 1914, it was stated that the construction of the

new wards was well in hand and that overcrowding in the hospital should cease in six months' time. Mr. Fowler in his report of July 29th, 1914, stated that very slow progress indeed was being made. He saw that 100 ft. of wall 2 ft. x 1 ft. in one ward was completed and that the site for the other ward was cut.

It was decided to write to Government deprecating the time that was being taken in the construction of these wards and the inconvenience that was being caused to estates in the meantime.

Excise.

The excise scheme from the Sabaragamuwa District Association was considered.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the matter was in the hands of a Committee competent to deal with it, and moreover if some such scheme became law, and this he did not anticipate for a moment, it would be open for an individual who was opposed to the scheme to decline to become an Honorary Agent or to have a tavern on the estate in his charge.

It was decided to take no action in the matter.

BERNARD STRACHAN,
Hon. Secretary, Passara, P.A.

DIMBULA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Dimbula Planters' Association took place at the Agras Cricket Pavilion on Monday, the 3rd August, 1914. There were present Messrs. A. J. Hamilton Harding (Chairman), A. A. Bowie, A. T. Sydney Smith, W. B. Bartlet, H. M. McLeod, J. Graeme Sinclair, G. C. Bliss, Ed. Cowan, A. L. Scott, S. E. James, F. C. Smith, C. S. Wait, H. A. Grigg, G. Mackintosh Smith, W. G. Beauchamp, J. P. Blackmore, J. Bartlet (visitor), R. E. Martin, L. E. Mercer, L. Cross-Buchanan, G. H. Hughes, H. D. Saner, E. E. Megget, W. Wilson Smith, D. J. Maitland, F. E. Waring, N. E. A. Hill, G. Lee Scott, G. Northey, R. Mylius, F. W. LeFeuvre, A. L. Gibson, S. Howard, N. H. Dendy, H. D. McNeil and R. J. K. MacBride, with the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Huntley Wilkinson.

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

The meeting confirmed the action taken by the Chairman in conveying to Mrs. John Aymer an expression of the Association's sympathy with her in her sad bereavement.

PLAGUE EXPERT.

The letter of the Parent Association Committee stating that they were not in favour of urging Government to procure a plague expert for Ceylon, as the Dimbula P. A. resolved, was read.

DIFFICULTIES ON THE NEW ROUTE.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Sydney Smith had had a conversation with a very well known head kangany in the dis-

trict and as a result had sent a letter to the Parent Association and a copy of it to them.

Mr. SYDNEY SMITH said the letter was not so much in the form of a complaint, but dealt with certain wrongs which it was attempted to get put right. It had reference to the food at Mandapam and difficulties on the journey from Mandapam to Ceylon. The kangany complained of the undue delay at various stations and that the railway accommodation for coolies was inadequate. He (the speaker) saw Mr. Hew Kennedy and wrote to the P. A. The matters had now been dealt with as adequately as possible and the interests of everyone at large had been secured thereby. ("Hear, hear.")

Mr. BLISS said Mr. Coles, who was one of the official visitors nominated by the Government, had paid a visit to the Camp and had reported to the Parent Association. That report would be available for the next Committee meeting. But the matter was really disgraceful—the state of the carriages, and so forth, on many trains from Mandapam. The thing was being looked into and they knew the railway had taken the matter in hand.

The CHAIRMAN said he knew the railway were only too willing to receive any complaints so long as they were well founded. Mr. Orchard had also sent a letter to the P. A. and it was dealt with.

FALSE DECLARATION AT MANDAPAM.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. Hughes as under:—

MANDAPAM COOLY ROUTE AND FALSE DECLARATION.

I see by your agenda for the meeting to be held on the 3rd proximo that there is correspondence *inter alia* "Mandapam Cooly Route." If I am in order, I would be obliged if you would bring up before the members of the meeting the necessity of taking steps against coolies giving false declarations at Mandapam. I have recently had two glaring cases of this, and on consulting the estates' proctor, Mr. Van Rooyen, find to get punishment meted out to offenders that the only Court which would have jurisdiction is the Court within whose limits Mandapam is situate. The trouble and expense of instituting a case in that Court would probably be more of a punishment to anybody sufficiently public spirited than to the offender deserving it! Either the Planters' Association should take up such cases at Mandapam or Government be asked that such cases could be tried at any Police Court in Ceylon.

July 25th, 1914.

The CHAIRMAN said that in Committee it was decided to send a copy of the letter to the Parent Association for them to take action.

Mr. HUGHES said it was a serious matter; about 20 per cent. of the coolies who came belonged to some other estate—especially under the P. L. F. rules.

The Committee's action was confirmed.

EXTRADITION WARRANTS FOR BOLTERS.

The CHAIRMAN said this matter had been gone into by a sub-Committee appointed by the Parent Association. It was the feeling that the old "A" form should be revised and the new form was submitted to the Attorney-General's Department. Kandy had not advised him yet whether

the Attorney-General had approved of the revised form or not. He would inform them when he knew.

LUGGAGE INSURANCE ON RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN said as a result of Miss Chamberlin losing some luggage on the railway, he brought the above matter before the Parent Association, and the General Manager was to be asked to produce wire and lead seals at the stations, so that anybody could have their boxes registered and sealed by the station master if they were not travelling by that particular train.

THE S.P.C.A. SUBSCRIPTION.

The CHAIRMAN, having intimated that the Committee had decided they could not afford a subscription to the S.P.C.A., the Committee's action was confirmed.

SMALL TOWN'S BOARD.

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. Bowie had consented to serve on the above board for Talawakelle. The slaughter house, for which they were having a new site, would be ready in about a month's time.

SMALL-POX AND CHOLERA.

A circular was read from Government asking the members of the Association to take preventive measures and all necessary precautions against the spread of these diseases.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether they did not agree that he and the Hon. Secretary might ask Government to circulate the estates, as the Association spent a lot of money in circulating Government information.

The meeting agreed.

CATTLE DISEASE IN HATTON.

The CHAIRMAN said the S.P.C.A. inspector had been producing animals from Talawakelle at the Hatton Court, and hearing of that they objected. The Police Magistrate had now sent a letter stating the inspector had been directed not to produce any cattle, except cattle from Hatton, at Court until the outbreak of rinderpest was over. The Chairman added that he suggested a report on the cattle should be sent by the D.M.O.

Mr. BOWIE said no animals should be sent to Hatton at all.

LAND SALE NOTICES.

The CHAIRMAN said, land sale notices had been posted in the clubs in the district, the following letter from the Land Settlement Officer, Colombo, explaining the reason:—

"My office has instructions to send copies of sale advertisements to the principal Planters' Associations, whenever these advertisements include large blocks of Crown land, so that the Planting Community may be aware of the intention to dispose of any considerable extent of Crown land."

REBATE UNDER MEDICAL WANTS' ORDINANCE.

Mr. GRAEME SINCLAIR asked what the rebate was under the MEDICAL WANTS ORDINANCE.

Mr. BLISS explained that if an estate had a hospital fulfilling all the requirements of the Medical Department they were entitled to full rebate. The requirements included the employment of a qualified medical officer. At the last meeting of the Medical Wants Committee it was decided that partial rebate might be made in the case of a hospital not having a fully qualified medical officer. It was thought it was not essential to getting any rebate that they should have a qualified medical officer. Each case would be considered on its merits.

BATTA FOR WITNESSES.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the P. A. stating that Government did not propose to increase the rate of batta paid to witnesses in Supreme Court cases.

The CHAIRMAN said that sub-Committee had decided that the matter be dropped for the meantime.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. J. W. Ferguson had collected Rs. 255 for the fund. He had had to go Home on a health trip and they hoped he would return in good health.

COMMISSION ON CHEQUES.

The HON. SECRETARY read an intimation from the P.A. that it did not approve of the payment of commission on cheques in payment of coolies' debts.

The CHAIRMAN said he had been a culprit, as he had collected commission as the result of somebody collecting it from him.

Mr. MAITLAND said he had a tundu from Koslande the other day demanding commission, and he refused to pay. When the kangany arrived he said they had taken it out of his pay. He wrote and told the superintendent about it.

Mr. SANER said the bank in Uva charged one per cent., and everybody in Uva deducted the commission.

The CHAIRMAN said there were some very strong words used about the practice of the Committee in Kandy, and he was quite sure that everybody in Dinbula would fall into line now that it had been mentioned.

THE COMMUTATION TAX: A DISPUTED POINT.

The HON. SECRETARY said, as the result of a resolution passed at the last meeting, he wrote to the Chairman of the District Road Committee for April 30th as follows:—

With reference to your letter of 24th March, I am instructed to refer to you Ordinance No. 9 of 1909 (amending Ordinance No. 10 of 1889.) See amendment of section 3 under heading 2 (1). Here the term labourer is defined as follows:—"Labourer" means any person of the classes commonly known as "Indian Coolies" and "Tulicans" employed or seeking to be employed on any estate for the purpose of industry carried on upon the estate and, unless the context otherwise requires, includes a kangany or a subordinate kangany. Provided that nothing in this definition shall preclude a superintendent from using any labourer employed upon his estate for the purpose of "domestic labour." This Ordinance surely provides that nothing in this definition precludes a superintendent from using any labourer employed upon his

estate for the purpose of domestic labour. This Association is of opinion also that this definition exempts all domestic servants whose names are on the check-roll from paying the commutation tax. I am also instructed to point out that superintendents in Dimbula often find that Sinhalese coolies on their estates ask them not to put them upon the Dimbula householders' list as they have paid their tax to their arachis in their villages. It seems to be detrimental to the District Road Committee, N.E., that taxes which should come to this body should thus be diverted to other districts. It is thought that this is fostered by the fact that arachies are said to receive 10 cents per head for commutation tax collected by them. I am open to correction if this is not the case.

April 25th, 1914.

The following was the reply from the Chairman, D. R. C., Nuwara Eliya, dated July 30th:—

In reply to your letter of 30th April, 1914, I have the honour to inform you that sub-section 5 of the section 50 of the Thoroughfares Ordinance (No. 10 of 1861) states that only the following are exempted from the liability to labour on the roads, or commute same by the payment of Re. 1.50 per head: "Indian coolies in search of or employed in agricultural labour in this Island. I cannot agree that the word agricultural labour can be taken to include domestic service. But I am willing to submit the matter for the ruling of the Chairman, Provincial Road Committee, if you wish. As regards the Sinhalese coolies paying in villages outside the Dimbula district, I can see nothing in the Ordinance to prevent a Sinhalese villager paying his tax in the village in which he lives—permanently, even if at the time of the collection of the tax he is temporarily employed elsewhere.

July 30th, 1914.

The CHAIRMAN, after pointing out that the reply did not refer at all to the Ordinance quoted in their letter, asked whether they should refer the matter to the Chairman, Provincial Road Committee, Kandy.

Mr. BLISS asked why they should do it. They had been called upon to pay the tax for the coolies employed in the bungalow and they had said they did not consider it a fair claim and that under Ordinance 9 of 1909, their coolies were exempt. It was for the Government Agent, surely, if he thought he had a claim, to take a case and test it. It could only be tested by going to Court. It was a question of the definition of the word labourer in the Ordinance. He maintained the coolies did not come under the definition of labourers, and he had refused to pay the tax.

The meeting agreed to let the matter drop.

EVENING DESPATCH OF MAILS.

The following letter was read from the Postmaster-General:—

I have the honour to inform you that the Postmaster, Agrapatna, reports that the mails due at his office at 6-30 p.m. usually arrive before 6 p.m., but he is unable to attend to them till he despatches his evening mail which closes at 6-15 p.m.

2. He suggests that the evening despatch of mails be closed at 5-30 p.m.—45 minutes earlier—to enable the earlier disposal of the mails received in the evening.

3. I shall be glad to have your views on the proposal.

July 14th, 1914.

It was proposed by Mr. BLISS, and seconded by Mr. WILSON SMITH, that: "This Association does not approve of the suggestion that the evening mail should be closed at 5-30, and desires that the present closing time, 6-15 p.m., be maintained."

This was carried.

Mr. WILSON SMITH said it should be mentioned in the covering letter that the letters at the Agrapatna P. O. were now sorted by telegraph peons. On being asked why that was so the reply was given that the postmaster had repeatedly applied for another assistant, which had been refused so far. The postmaster said he and his assistant had other work to do and could not attend to the sorting of the mails.

Mr. F. C. SMITH: It is not a peon he wants, but an assistant.

Mr. MYLIUS: A man with trousers on, sir,—(loud laughter.)

MR. VILLIERS' EXCISE PROPOSAL.

The meeting supported Mr. E. C. Villiers' proposal re the Excise Scheme, particulars of which have already appeared and also the decision of the Kandy Committee upon them.

CLEARING UP A MISAPPREHENSION.

The CHAIRMAN said a certain amount of misapprehension was prevalent with regard to the matter of the J.P., and U.P.M. in the district, and in trying to elucidate the matter they wrote a comprehensive letter to the A.G.I. and received the following reply dated August 1st:—

With reference to your letter dated the 8th ultimo, I have the honour to reply as follows:—

(a) Mr. Spurway is no longer a J.P., U.P.M., as he definitely resigned and his resignation was accepted by Government.

(b) Mr. Waring it would appear holds the office of J.P. U.P.M., although his name does not appear on the Civil list. He was appointed on the 24th August, 1912, and my records do not show that he has resigned his office. If he, since appointment has not resigned office, I will take steps to have the omission rectified.

(c) A J.P. is not an Unofficial P.M. or Inquirer. An Unofficial Police Magistrate is an Inquirer. Please see Sections 84, 84A, and 85 of the Courts Ordinance 1 of 1889 (a copy of which is annexed.)

(d) An Inquirer into Sudden Deaths is only an Inquirer into Sudden Deaths.

(e) If any member resigns any one of these offices the judicial authority vested on him also ceases. The appointments are not for life, but there is nothing to prevent any member being re-appointed.

August 1st, 1914.

A HOSPITAL FOR AGRAPATANA.

The following letter was read from the Colonial Secretary, dated July 30th, 1914:—

With reference to your letter of the 24th July, 1914, I am directed to state that it has been decided to include a sum of Rs. 30,000 in the Estimates for 1914-1915 for the construction of a hospital at Agrapatna. I am to add that the Director of Public Works has been requested to expedite the preparation of plans for the hospital and Medical Officer's quarters, and to state how soon work on the latter can be begun.

The CHAIRMAN said, they should congratulate themselves on getting that hospital sanctioned after some years' agitation. (Applause.)

Mr. F. C. SMITH asked if they were going to build a D.M.O. bungalow.

The CHAIRMAN said, yes. He referred to a visit the P.C.M.O. and the D. E. made to the site last May, and said he thought the preparations of the plans was being gone on with. Unfortunately he missed Mr. Chapman when in Colombo, but saw the P.C.M.O. with regard to the delay, because he was given to understand Sutton estate had extended the time in which the D.M.O. could occupy Sutton bungalow, although it was a pressing need to themselves. To the superintendent was due their thanks for what he wrote to his agents. (Applause). The Medical Wants Committee had brought the matter forward and had pushed it to a practical conclusion and in the course of six weeks or two months they might see a commencement made. It would be a great convenience and would relieve the Lindula Hospital. The matter of rescheduling the whole of the Lindula and Agrapatana districts for contributions to the hospitals had been very kindly relegated by the P.C.M.O. to the Association.

TELEPHONIC INFORMATION ABOUT HOSPITAL DEATHS.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the D.M.O. would inform by telephone superintendents who used Lindula Hospital of the deaths of coolies, which occurred there.

The HON. SECRETARY said he had it verbally from the D.M.O., but he would write him officially.

HOOK WORM.

The CHAIRMAN announced that through the courtesy of Mr. A. Scott, of Waverley, they had a visit from Mr. Wycliffe Rose, Dr. Sandwith and Dr. Langley Hunt. Dr. Sandwith inspected the Waverley labour force and pointed out every case of ancylostomiasis. After that Mr. Rose gave them a very interesting lecture in the Waverley office, at which several members attended. He thought they had all come away with the idea that they had learnt something, and that what Mr. Rose had told them would put them on their guard in the future in detecting cases and combating the old ones. They would have noticed in the Press that Government had set to work to eradicate the disease on estates, and that the P. A. had circularised several estates and had got them to allow their places to be points of experiment. They had not heard yet what estates had been chosen, but in Dimbula Mr. Mason, of Harrington, and Mr. A. Scott had offered their places.

DISTRICT TELEPHONE SERVICE.

The CHAIRMAN, after reviewing the situation about the meetings, the various subscribers to the three telephone exchanges had held with respect to introducing the metallic system throughout the district, said in short the decision of the three exchanges was that the total amount of putting the three exchanges on the metallic circuit was to be pooled and divided equally between the estates. After considering the matter—he had been in favour of an acreage cess before—he thought that was the right decision. He

moved formally that the district telephones be worked on the lines which the three secretaries of the three exchanges and drawn up.

Mr. COWAN asked if all estates had agreed to come in.

Mr. GRAEME SINCLAIR said in Tillicoultry all estates had agreed.

Mr. CROSS BUCHANAN said all the estates in his district had agreed except one which was uncertain, but he thought that they would probably come in.

Mr. MEGGETT said, that in the Agras all estates were in favour of it, but no definite decision had been arrived at. He added that about half had agreed.

The CHAIRMAN said that as all this work had involved a great deal of the time of the three secretaries, he moved a hearty vote of thanks to them.

Carried with applause. The resolution was agreed to.

THE DOCTOR'S BUNGALOW.

The CHAIRMAN said that he thought that most of the work on the doctor's bungalow would be finished by the 1st of September, and the doctor would be able to move in in October.

The HON. SECRETARY announced that insurance to the amount of Rs. 19,500 had been effected on the bungalow.

The CHAIRMAN said that at last they had got the agreement between the Dimbula, Dickoya and Maskeliya Associations completed with respect to the doctors.

TRUSTEES OF DISTRICT PROPERTY.

The CHAIRMAN said that they went into the trusteeship of their property in Dimbula, and a sub-Committee was appointed to go into the whole matter and make a report to the Parent Association in Kandy. The report had been duly sent in and Mr. Bliss, as a member of that Committee, had taken a great deal of trouble over getting Mr. Van Langenberg to draw out the points which they particularly wanted drawn out. If the Parent Association became a corporate body the idea was that the District Associations would control their own property under the general trusteeship of the Parent Association in Kandy.

The documents and reports were taken as read.

LIQUID FUEL.

The following letter was read from the General Manager of the C.G.R., dated June 9th :—

June 9th, 1914.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 18th ultimo on the above subject, I have the honour to state that the six additional tank wagons ordered for this traffic have not arrived yet, but they have been promised delivery by makers in England on July 10th, 1914. This means that we will probably receive them at about the end of August, 1914. Work is very busy in England at present, hence the delay in delivering but a cable will be sent to the makers to expedite matters. I have asked the Asiatic Petroleum Co. to go into the whole question of probable future developments of this trade and to put before me figures which will enable me to deal with the matter in a business-like manner and I therefore cannot see that there is anything to be gained in the meantime by correspondence with separate associations or interested individuals.

You may rest assured that the matter is having attention but, until facts are placed before me by the principal suppliers, nothing can be done except to make the best of the existing arrangements.

Mr. BLISS said that at a meeting in Kandy it was suggested that Government should pending the arrival of these new tanks send up the liquid fuel in 400 gallon tanks in ordinary trucks. He believed they were prepared to do that. It would relieve the situation anyway.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that he had seen the General Manager at the beginning of the month and he gave him a very sympathetic hearing all about the troubles they had during the rush months for liquid fuel. He promised to look into the matter and had asked Delmege Forsyth to take the matter in hand. They were circularising the estates with a view to pushing up the liquid fuel as fast as they could by the railway. The General Manager laid before him another proposal, viz., that estates should have at least one month's supply in hand always, and that during the slack months they should put up some sort of a tank to contain at least a month's supply. They would be helping the railway as well as themselves.

THE SIX WAGONS WILL SUFFICE.

The HON. SECRETARY then read the following letter from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., dated July 15th:—

We have to acknowledge receipt of your favour of 11th instant. In reply to the second paragraph of your letter, we may state that, in our opinion, the six additional wagons will be sufficient to supply the requirements of Ceylon in general for some time to come. On the present running of the railway, they will enable us to supply our outstation depots with 100,000 to 120,000 gallons of liquid fuel per month in addition to present supplies. We may state that an additional demand for liquid fuel was anticipated and that these wagons have been in order for several months, and we do not think the railway are in any way to blame for the delay in their delivery. We may state further that there has been an exceptional demand for liquid fuel this year and that with very few exceptions, neither estates nor the various Planters' Associations have given us any indication that the demand would show more than a normal increase. The big demand for fuel only lasts some five months in the year and during the rest of the year wagons are apt to be idle in Colombo. May we suggest, therefore, in order to assist the estates, the railway and ourselves, that you recommend all estates in your district to provide storage for, say, a fortnight's supply? If this were done, there would be much less risk of estates running short of fuel, as in the event of exceptional demand or other unforeseen circumstance rendering immediate supply impossible, there would always be a reserve to fall back on.

July 15th, 1914.

SHORTAGE OF RICE.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Mercer had complained of the shortage of rice received at Talawakelle station, and he (the speaker) saw the General Manager about it. He stated that the matter was receiving attention.

The HON. SECRETARY then read the following letter from the General Manager to the Chairman, dated June 13th:—

With reference to your letter of the 6th instant, I have the honour to state that consignments of goods are, with a very few exceptions, dealt with in the following way:—

(1) Small consignments are weighed fully on small weighing machines.

(2) Large consignments consisting of packages of same description and size, a fair proportion of packages is weighed and the total weight of consignment calculated upon the average.

Under no circumstances are weights of native dealers accepted by us, and they are not permitted to place upon consignment notes their own weights. From the above you will see that we take all reasonable precautions to ascertain the weight of consignments as nearly as possible, but, of course, we cannot recognise them as a basis of claim for shortage as after all they can only be approximate. I may add that we also undertake to re-weigh consignments at destination on payment of a tonnage reweighing charge which we refund if the variation is 28 lbs. or more per ton besides rectifying the weight and charges ascertained at the sending station.

June 13th, 1914.

The CHAIRMAN continuing said that when he saw the General Manager he found that the custom was to weigh one bag out of 20 of every consignment, and he requested that the matter should receive re-consideration, and suggested that one bag in every ten should be weighed. Another matter he brought forward was this—what happened when one truck contained rice for several estates for several stations; were the seals of the truck broken by a responsible person and re-sealed again by a responsible person? The General Manager rang up the Traffic Superintendent and then gave him the definite reply that the seals were broken by responsible persons employed by the railway. Over and above this he (the Chairman) understood that the matter had been brought forward by the Chamber of Commerce, but the reply was not of satisfactory character. He had approached one or two prominent firms in Colombo with a view to bringing it more forcibly before the Chamber of Commerce. He believed that a certain member not so long ago got up 300 bushels which were something like 13 bushels short on arrival. He thought it was a matter for the agency firms to take up. He would report to the Association in due course. With regard to Mr. Mercer's case; the General Manager said it was a very clear one. The matter was still under consideration, so he could report no result. The CHAIRMAN then asked the Hon. Secretary to read his letter to the General Manager, dated July 13th.

The HON. SECRETARY also read Mr. Mercer's letter which was to the same effect as some of the instances mentioned in the Chairman's letter.

Mr. MERCER said that he could give them some more examples. A consignment was despatched from Colombo on June 20th and came to Talawakelle on June 26th. There were 80 bags of rice weighing 5 tons 12 cwt. The weight in Talawakelle was ascertained as 5 tons. 4 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lbs., the shortage being 7 cwt., 2 qrs., 1 lb. When measured there were 14 bushels short out of 200. He believed another 100 bushels came up in the same wagon but he could not vouch for it, and they turned out 94 bushels or 3 cwt., 1 qr., 16 lbs. short.

The CHAIRMAN said that in Committee Mr. Bliss suggested that Mr. Mercer should make a claim against the railway.

Mr. MERCER said he thought he would see what the firms were going to do first.

Mr. BLISS told Mr. Mercer that he should make a claim against the railway and see whether they were prepared to settle or disclaim, all liability. They would then see where they were.

Mr. MERCER: It is done through the firm. I shall have to ask my agents.

Mr. SYDNEY SMITH thought the railway were responsible for not sending the correct weight. He knew they said that they had by-laws on the matter but they knew that the law, and he presumed that it was the same as the English law, would rule the case. The by-laws did not override the ordinance of the country. Therefore let the claim be made.

Mr. MERCER said that he wrote the firm about it and their reply said that it went to show that there was pilferage on the railway and that they would bring it to the notice of the proper authorities.

The CHAIRMAN read the General Manager's letter to the Chamber of Commerce on the subject, and also the Chairman's reply, which have already been published in the papers.

Mr. GRAEME SINCLAIR said it was very seldom that they had such a clear case as Mr. Mercer's and it would be a very great pity to let it drop. The members would be very grateful to him if he would go on with it. (Hear, hear.) He hoped Mr. Mercer would take a case.

Mr. MERCER said that he was quite prepared to do that. He thought it better to adopt Mr. Asquith's policy and "Wait and see" until they had heard from those firms.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Mercer for the trouble he had taken to bring the matter to the notice of the Association. The motion was carried and it was understood Mr. Mercer would make a claim.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following letter from the General Manager of the C.G.R., dated June 12th.

With reference to your letter of the 6th inst., I have the honour to inform you that Messrs. Canapathipillai & Sons do the work at Kotagala, Talawakelle and Watagoda, having been released of other contracts to enable them to devote better attention to the work at these stations. The work is done departmentally at Nanuoya.

The CHAIRMAN said that in connection with that he found that the railway had one contractor for all stations between Nawalapitiya and Nanuoya which was simply ridiculous. They had now got one contractor for the three stations which served Dimbula and he had recommended the General Manager a man for Nanuoya because it was done until recently departmentally. He thought it more advisable for their own sakes and for the sake of the railway that they should get a proper contractor.

A LATE TRAIN FROM HATTON.

The CHAIRMAN moved the following: That this Association do correspond with the General Manager of the C. G. R. with a view to having the 9.5 p.m., which now stops at Hatton, running on to Nanuoya. "Several gentlemen who travelled by that train wanted to get back to Talawakelle; they could only get as far as Hatton from where they had to motor home. He had approached the General Manager and asked him whether he could not see his way to put a composite carriage on that train and run it to Nanuoya where there was accommodation for the staff. Would they confirm the Committee's action?"

Mr. F. C. SMITH wanted a refreshment car put on.

The CHAIRMAN said let them first get the train.

The motion was carried.

ROADS.

The CHAIRMAN, speaking with regard to the Talawakelle Nanuoya road, said that out of the 19 estates which had been approached 18 had agreed to give the land without any claim for spoil. The odd one would probably come in in the course of a week or a fortnight, so that would practically see the scheme through.

Mr. GRAEME SINCLAIR asked the Chairman if he had any information about the Abbotsford Bridge. Was it going to be renewed and if so why?

The CHAIRMAN said that the new bridge would probably be erected about November or December next. That bridge had been sanctioned by the District Road Committee to be erected on the site of the old bridge on the Inverness road leading to Nanuoya. He had got sanction for that bridge to be removed.

Mr. MACBRIDE said that the reason why it was being renewed was because it was not in accordance with the present type of motor lorry.

Mr. Cowan asked Mr. MacBride, how many estates a motor lorry would serve by going over that bridge.

Mr. MACBRIDE said that he was unable to answer that. He left that to the planters.

Mr. COWAN said that there was only one estate it could serve.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was on one of the main roadways of the Island and if it was necessary to widen the road it was also necessary to widen the bridge.

The HON. SECRETARY pointed out that the Government were doing it at their own expense.

Mr. MYLLES: It will give us a chance to take the guns to Nuwara Eliya. (Laughter.)

STEAM ROLLERS.

The CHAIRMAN said, as they knew, they had agitated for a long time for steam rollers. They had had two but one was taken away. Very luckily when he saw the D.P.W. a roller had just arrived so the D.P.W. sanctioned that roller to come to Dimbula immediately or within ten days. They ought to pass a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Chapin for being so prompt. (Applause.) In a short time they would find the roads very much improved to what they were at the present moment.

INTER-DISTRICT ROAD CONNECTIONS.

The CHAIRMAN said that he was afraid this matter came up fairly often for discussion. He had now brought it up for a final decision and he wanted to hear what the general meeting had to say to those two connections. The first was the Gorge Valley Road and the Lindula-Nanuoya road and the second was the connection between Glenlyon, Preston and Anfield roads. In 1905 Mr. Tomalin, who was then their P. E. in the district, had a trace made of the road and he drew up a rough plan of where the road should be and also what the cost would be. He (the Chairman) believed he was more or less in favour of the road. No such plan or specification had been drawn up with regard to the Glenlyon-Preston-Anfield road but he might mention that the estates through which the Gorge Valley road passed were not very much inclined to give the whole of the land free. Therefore he was afraid that there was little chance of it going through until that had been agreed to. With regard to the other road there was only one estate which was standing down. All the others had given their land free of spoil. One estate had a reservation and that was that the track should pass close to their factory. He thought it would be possible to do that. Both matters had been brought before Government by the A.G.A., Nuwara Eliya. The road board, which sat on June 24th, were asked to consider this matter but through some oversight, which he could not quite understand, the road was not brought up. Therefore, as far as the current year's or the coming year's estimates were concerned, there was little chance of getting either of those road connections. When the matter was before the Committee it was passed that the two roads should be pursued and the matter should not be lost sight of. He therefore asked if the meeting wanted the matter continued. There had been a considerable amount of correspondence within the last few months and a great deal of time had been taken for the benefit of Dimbula. He was sorry to say that the officials did not take very much notice of the claims Dimbula had on the public exchequer. She contributed very largely, and therefore he submitted that the claims of Dimbula for relief, not only with regard to road connections but with regard to main thoroughfares and roadways should have their voice heard.

The meeting agreed with the Chairman that the matters should be pursued to the end.

THE BOPATALAWA ROAD.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had simply to report that the bridges had been put in first class order from Holmwood to Loinorn. He was sorry to report that the application for a reduction in the price of timber, which was made by Holmwood, was not granted.

INVERNESS BRIDGE.

The CHAIRMAN announced that Inverness bridge, which was carried away by the floods, was being replaced by the old bridge from Abbotsford. He saw Mr. Chapman about

it and he said that he did not see any objection. They had had correspondence with the D. R. C. and the P. R. C. A letter from the latter agreed to the proposal.

REPAIRS TO BRIDGES.

The following correspondence was read:—

July 24th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your favour of 18th instant, the expenditure on Fankerton-St. George temporary Bridge has been Rs. 396-18, as per Mr. Saner's letter enclosed.

Yours, &c.,

ARCHIBALD C. CHAMBERLIN,

July 24th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 23rd instant, on the above subject, all work on the Waltrim Bridge will be finished by the end of this month, with the exception of tarring. The Waltrim Bridge is now open for rickshaw and horse traffic.

Yours, &c.,

H. M. McLEOD.

"Flood" Damages in Dimbula.

July 24th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter of 23rd instant, I received instructions from Messrs. Whittall & Co. on 9th instant to proceed with the rebuilding of the Agra Ouvah bridge on the Agrapatna-St. George District Minor Road. I have placed an order for a new iron bridge with Messrs. The Talawakelle Engineering Works, and I have given out on contract the repairing and raising of the abutments of the bridge. There is stone available on only the right bank of the stream so the stone for the abutment on the left bank will have to be moved across the river, and this can only be done when the river is low, so I am afraid it will be quite the end of the year before the bridge has been rebuilt. I may mention that I have erected a swing bridge at the spot where the old bridge stood, and this bridge I will keep in good order until the new bridge has been finished, so the public will not be inconvenienced by any delay there may be.

Yours, &c.,

W. WILSON SMITH.

The CHAIRMAN said that they should congratulate themselves on the good progress that the three gentlemen had made with the bridges. (Hear, hear.) The Waltrim bridge was used more than the others and they should thank Mr. McLeod for the trouble he had taken. (Applause.)

MOTOR LORRY ON THE HENFOLD ROAD.

The CHAIRMAN said that one or two members wanted a motor lorry running along the Henfold road on condition that it was not taken over the Henfold bridge, which was not considered safe enough for motor lorries. He was sorry to say that they had got an adverse answer to their letter. They pointed out that only three ton lorries were allowed on the Gorge Valley road. Did they approve that they should write again wishing for the matter to be pressed for. He did not think Government would agree to it.

Mr. MERCER said that the bugbear on the road was the two bridges. He had written asking if they would allow the lorries to go as far as the bridge and then come back.

Mr. MYLIUS: When will the bugbear be taken away? (Laughter.)

Mr. MACBRIDE said it was only a matter of the Henfold and Kowlahena bridges and they were under consideration. There was nothing wrong with the rest of the road to his knowledge. It was a matter of a short time before the thing was settled by Government.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following letter signed by himself and the Chairman and dated June 18th:—

MOTOR LORRY TRAFFIC—RAILWAY GORGE ROAD.

It has been proposed by some of the estates concerned in the above road that six ton lorries fully loaded be permitted to ply on this road from Talawakelle as far as the Henfold estate bridge and *vice versa*. It is also requested that the lorry unloaded may be permitted to go over the Henfold estate bridge for the purpose of turning. We trust that you can see your way to sanction the proposal.

They wrote again on June 25th as follows:—

With reference to the combined letter of our Chairman and myself written to you on the 18th instant, I have the honour to state that if permission should not be given for a lorry 6 tons fully loaded to ply on this road as far as the Henfold Bridge, permission to run a lorry 4½ tons fully loaded to this point (and across the bridge unloaded) would be appreciated.

The reply they received from the Chairman of the Provincial Road Committee. Kandy, was dated July 30th and read as follows:—

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 18th instant, I have the honour to refer you to the notice in the *Gazette* of the 3rd instant which fixes three tons on total weight, allowed at present on Railway Gorge Road, pending the improvements for which estimates are before Government.

2. The weight of the lorry *unloaded* is not stated in your letter. If it does not exceed 3 tons unloaded there would be, of course, no objection to its going over the Henfold bridge unloaded.

The HON. SECRETARY pointed out that they had purposely avoided the question in their letters. The motor lorry weighed 2½ tons unloaded and the Talawakelle Engineering Co. said that it did not pay them to take only three-quarters of a ton to that spot.

Mr. HUGHES said that the matter should be pressed.

Mr. MERCER said that it was only temporary until all the road was ready.

The meeting agreed to Mr. Hughes' suggestion.

The CHAIRMAN said if any lorries were taken over the Glenlyon-Preston road it was at the risk of those who took them.

Mr. HOWAR asked when the lorries were to be equipped with a specific kind of horn so that they would know it was a motor lorry coming.

The HON. SECRETARY said the looking-glasses had arrived. The lorries were going to have bells and they were about to arrive.

Mr. SAKER and Mr. MAITLAND said they were very grateful to the drivers who showed great consideration.

CHURCH MATTERS.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Church meeting had been put off as there was not a representative meeting.

WAR NEWS.

The telegrams sent by the *Times of Ceylon* to Mr. Sydney Smith and Mr. Hanson Walker containing war news were read to the meeting and created a great amount of interest.

A LETTER.

The following is the letter from the Chairman to the General Manager of the Railway dated July 18th, and referred to under the heading of "Shortage of rice."

With reference to our recent conversation on this subject I have the honour to bring to your notice a clear case of shortage of rice on the Railway. A member of this Association got up 60 bags of rice about the 18th May last. The railway receipt shewed the weight as tons 4.5-0-0 (Colombo weight), but on arrival at Talawakele the rice was re-weighed in his presence and only shewed tons 3.19-2.1 cwt. 5-3-27 short. He refused to take delivery of two of the bags, approximately 5 bushels weighing cwt. 2-2-12 as they seemed to have been tampered with. The string at the mouth of one of the bags appeared to have been cut and rice was leaking. The other bag also seemed to have been opened and carelessly tied up. The remaining 58 bags which he took delivery of measured 136 7-8 bushels out of a consignment of 150 bushels. Taking the two bags which he refused delivery of as containing 5 bushels there would still be a shortage of 8 1-8 bushels. I shall be glad to know what action you propose to take to prevent such shortages in future.

KANDY DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Kandy District Planters' Association was held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday, August 1st, 1914. E. F. Home presided, and the others present were:—Messrs. A. Lee Simpson, T. Colthurst, W. A. F. Murray, Stanley Hillman, A. V. Gould, A. Jemmett Pyper, L. H. S. Peiris, and S. R. Hamer (Hon. Secretary.)

KANDY CIVIL HOSPITAL.

The SECRETARY read the following report made by Messrs. G. F. Farquharson and A. Lee Simpson on the Kandy Hospital:—

Visited by Mr. Lee Simpson and Mr. G. F. Farquharson on the 29th of July, 1914. Doctor in charge—Dr. A. SPARR.

Nursing staff consisted of three English nurses and one acting matron.

The total number of patients in the hospital is 223, for whom there are only 193 beds. In the Ulcer Ward there are 48 patients to 22 beds. In the Estate Ward 29 patients to 22 beds. In the Female Surgical Ward there are 6 patients on the floor. In the Female Medical Ward two, and in the Diarrhoea Ward 8. This calls for the immediate attention of the Government to supply the necessary accommodation. Six new observation rooms are nearly completed and the Eye Hospital is also nearing completion. No further steps appear to have been taken to provide consulting rooms and offices which are most necessary. Also there appears to be no clerical staff, the apothecary appearing to do the work, but very often the apothecary visits estates instead of the D.M.O. owing to being understaffed. This is not right and an increase to the staff should at once be made. Kitchen, bathrooms and grounds are clean and tidy. The spring on the kitchen door, as recommended in the last report, has not been provided and the spring

in the other door since our 1st visit has also disappeared rendering the fly-proof wire to the kitchen quite useless, but the Doctor assured us that new doors were going to be at once placed. A zinc-lined table for the kitchen has arrived. There are some cases of old patients in hospital who, though not ill, appear to have taken up their permanent abode there. It is impossible to get rid of them as there is no place to send them to. They add to the overcrowding of the hospital. The Government should provide some place to send these people to. There are five paying patients in hospital and one maternity case.

(Signed) G. F. FARQUHARSON,

A. LEE SIMPSON.

PATIENTS THAT CANNOT BE GOT RID OF.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON said that with reference to the concluding part of the report, the patients referred to could not be got rid of. They were being continually sent off by the hospital staff, but they were persistently brought back by the police. (Laughter.) Those patients saw no reason why they should leave a comfortable home. (Laughter.)

Mr. W. A. F. MURRAY: The hospital staff should refuse to take them in.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON said it could not be done.

The CHAIRMAN: The complaint, however, is that the hospital is always overcrowded. It is quite time some thing was done to provide more accommodation.

Mr. L. H. S. PEIRIS said that a special ward to accommodate that class of patients was being erected in the Colombo Hospital. He suggested that such patients be sent from Kandy to the Colombo institution.

The CHAIRMAN: If you can get them down. The difficulty will be to get them to leave Kandy.

Mr. MURRAY enquired whether the Vagrants' Home in Colombo was meant?

Mr. PEIRIS said that it was a branch of the General Hospital, which they were erecting in Ward Place.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there plenty of room in the Colombo Hospital?

Mr. PEIRIS: They are building more wards as they have not sufficient accommodation.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that it had been a general complaint for years that the hospital was full.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON said the complaint was greater now. The place was more crowded now than it was on his previous visit. There was a distinct increase. Dr. SPAAR told him that there were a good many patients in the Ulcer Ward as there was an increase of ulcer patients at that time of the year. That, however, did not apply to the other wards.

PREFERRED TO SLEEP ON THE FLOOR.

The CHAIRMAN: In every ward there are a good many patients lying on the floor.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON said that was not for want of beds or mattresses. He thought it would be a good thing to supply straw mattresses to the patients who slept on the cement floor, but Drs. Spaar and Alwis did not seem to favour the idea. Very often when they went down to the wards at

night they found patients sleeping on the floor. They would leave their beds and blankets and sleep on the cement floor. It did not then seem a hardship on those patients.

The CHAIRMAN: It certainly means overcrowding?

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: Yes; and the overcrowding of coolies, or anyone else, is not the right thing from a sanitary point of view.

HOSPITAL UNDERSTAFFED.

Mr. PEIRIS drew attention to the understaffing of the Kandy Hospital. He pointed out that they had only 2 medical men for 223 patients. If they compared those figures with the Colombo figures they would see the difference. For a little under 600 patients in the Colombo Hospital they had 7 qualified medical men.

The CHAIRMAN said he was just going to propose that it they could not increase the accommodation they might increase both the medical and nursing staff. For a big hospital like that they should certainly have a large staff.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON pointed out that with such a small medical staff it was found impossible to attend to estate calls. The work of Dr. Spaar was limited to the hospital which he was not allowed to leave; and that meant that an apothecary was sent to attend to cases, which might be the most serious. He understood the apothecary was not a qualified man. Then there was no clerk in the hospital and the poor apothecary had, in addition to his own work, to do clerical work.

The CHAIRMAN: I propose that the medical staff be increased by a house-surgeon, and an extra clerk be also provided.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: Not an "extra clerk," but "a clerk" as there is no clerk at present. (Laughter.)

Mr. PEIRIS remarked that a special Medical man was being sent to have charge of the Eye Hospital.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: Dr. Spaar gave me to understand that he will be entirely in charge of the Eye Hospital, and his arrival will not alter the existing state of things.

The CHAIRMAN: I certainly think the hospital staff ought to be increased.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON suggested that the comparative figures quoted by Mr. Peiris might be included in the covering letter forwarding to the P.C.M.O. the resolution they passed.

Mr. PEIRIS remarked that there were actually three medical men attached to the Kandy Hospital, one of them being a relieving officer; but practically, they had only two in attendance at the hospital. He visited the place and found that within the last three months the relieving medico had not been a week in the hospital.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON then proposed: "That this Association suggests that an extra qualified medical man and a clerk be added to the staff of the Kandy Hospital to cope with the work." He suggested that the comparative figures, already referred to, be quoted in the covering letter, and that it be also pointed out that at present there is no clerk, the apothecary having to do the work.

The CHAIRMAN seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

DANGEROUS APPROACH ROAD TO HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had received a letter from Mr. L. H. S. Peiris, dated the 29th July, enquiring whether the Association ever had any correspondence with the Provincial Engineer, Central Province, with regard to improving the approach road to the Kandy Civil Hospital. The letter came to hand only that day and they had no time to enquire into the matter.

Mr. MURRAY said that there was a great deal of correspondence on the subject some time ago, and they found it very difficult to determine—he did not know whether it was ever cleared up—as to who should undertake the care and maintenance of the particular road. The matter was referred to the Government, the P. W. D., and the Kandy Municipal Council, and they all disclaimed responsibility. (Laughter.)

On the suggestion of the CHAIRMAN, Mr. PEIRIS agreed to leave the matter over for the next meeting.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON remarked that there seemed to be no alteration in the approach road.

Mr. PEIRIS suggested that, irrespective of their looking into the matter, they might write to the Government to improve the road.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: When that was done once before the Government referred us to the Kandy Municipal Council and they in turn referred us to the P. W. D. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: I remember that incident, Mr. Gordon's reply was very amusing.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON remarked that as they had a member, Mr. Peiris, who was a Municipal Councillor, he might tell them whether the Council took any responsibility in that matter.

Mr. PEIRIS said the question was referred to the Municipal Council before his time. He intended to bring the matter up at a meeting of the Municipal Council after referring it to that Association. The improvement of the road was very necessary.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON remarked that pending consideration of the matter at the next meeting, they might ascertain from the Municipal Council whether they were responsible for the road.

Mr. MURRAY: No, no.

The SECRETARY said he wished to know when that matter was last brought up.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: Two years ago.

Mr. PEIRIS pointed out that there was a dangerous blind corner on the road.

It was decided to bring the matter up at the next meeting.

MEDICAL WANTS ORDINANCE.

The SECRETARY tabled copies of a notification from the Government Agent, forwarded by the Secretary, C.P.A., with reference to the Medical Wants Ordinance, 1912.

CONTROL OF ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS.

The SECRETARY read the following letter:—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 8th June, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Kandy District P.A.

DEAR SIR,

I am directed to request you kindly to send me a list of those estates in your district which would, in your personal opinion, be at once, (a) willing to allow experiments in the control of Ankylostomiasis to be made under proper medical supervision and, (b) suitable ground for such experiments. I am to ask you to reply within one week as it is desired to get to work at once. I am further to point out that it is your own advice which is solicited, and I am, therefore to ask you not to await your next meeting. It will be convenient if you will select estates where the labour conditions are harmonious and the superintendent likely to take an interest in the experiments. And where any doubt exists as to the agents or proprietors granting permission I shall be much obliged if you will ask the superintendent kindly to approach them, either by letter or by telegram, and ask for their decision. The lists I hope to receive in this way from districts will be submitted to the Ankylostomiasis Joint Committee formed of members of the Planters' Association, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Estate Agents' Association, and on which the Low-country Products' Association will, probably, be represented. This Committee will revise the lists and make its final selection by balloting for the required number of estates. The experiments will be paid for by Government, and Dr. E. Langley Hunt, C.M.A., will generally direct and control the organisation.

I am, Sir, etc.,
(Signed) JOHN STILLER,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

The CHAIRMAN said he sent copies of the letter to the managers of several estates. Messrs. J. B. Coles, Nilambe, Galaha; G. J. Murray, Pallekelle, Kandy; Gordon Skene, Kirrimettia, Kadugannawa; A. Lee Simpson, Mausava, Galagedere; and C. C. du Pre Moore, Hunasgeriya Group, Wattagama, and everybody seemed quite willing to help the Government in any way they could. He wrote to the Secretary of the C.P.A. saying that the managers of those estates had expressed their willingness to help the Government in any way they could, and that the general feeling was that they would like to know of what nature the experiments were to be, and if they were such that they could agree to them. In reply, the Secretary of the C.P.A., wrote saying that full details would be available before anyone was asked to commit himself to the experiment. He (the speaker) understood that three estates would be chosen to start with.

INTERNATIONAL RUBBER EXHIBITION, BATAVIA.

The CHAIRMAN tabled copies of a circular with regard to the forthcoming International Rubber Congress and Exhibition, to be held at Batavia from the 8th September to the 10th October.

P. W. D. COOLIES ON ESTATES.

The SECRETARY read the following letter:—
FROM THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, KATUGASTOTA
TO THE HON. SECRETARY, KANDY DISTRICT P.A.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that instances have come to my notice where estate superintendents have taken over P.W.D. coolies from overseers who are not authorised to issue tundus, and in consequence there has been trouble. I shall be greatly obliged if you will be so good as to inform the members of your Association

that the taking over of P.W.D. coolies from overseers is illegal, and that no tundu should be recognised unless signed by the District Engineer.

In this connection I may invite your attention to the Supreme Court judgment in P. C. Kegalle, No. 16986.

I am, Sir, etc.,
(Signed) A. C. B. JONKLAAS,
District Engineer.

Mr. STANLEY HILLMAN: If they take our coolies why should not we take over theirs? (Laughter.)

RAMESWARAM PILGRIMAGE.

The SECRETARY read the following letter:—

Kandy Kachecheri, July 21st, 1914.

Sir,

In order to prevent immigrants from India coming to Ceylon as returning members of a pilgrim party to Rameswaram it has been decided by the Plague Committee to issue special permits to intending pilgrims. The application for such tickets have to be made through me.

I am, etc.,
A. N. STRONG,
for Government Agent, C.P.

With a vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. A. LEE SIMPSON, the meeting came to a close.

PUSSELLAWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at the Pussellawa Court House, at 2 p.m. on Friday, 7th August, 1914, preceded by a Committee meeting at 1-30 p.m. Mr. H. M. Picken presided, and those present were:—Messrs. E. A. Clive, G. Fenning, M. V. Clapham, G. Charlton Jones, D. H. Unwin, C. B. Loudon Shand, A. M. Taft, D. Gilmour, H. J. P. Samarasekere, J. F. Templer, A. C. Grant, Sir Francis Sibbald Scott, and Mr. P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary.)

THE LATE MR. JOHN AYMER.

The CHAIRMAN, before proceeding with the business of the meeting, referred to the death of Mr. John Aymer, which, he regretted to announce, had taken place since the last meeting. He had been for many years a member of the Pussellawa P.A., and it was resolved that a vote of condolence be sent to his relative in Ceylon.

The CHAIRMAN, with the permission of the meeting, confirmed the minutes of the last meeting.

LIQUID FUEL.

A discussion took place on this much-vexed question. It was resolved that, as the matter is being taken up by the Parent Association, further action on the part of this Association was unnecessary, beyond asking Messrs. Delmege Forsyth to increase the liquid fuel accommodation at Gampola.

GAMPOLA BRIDGE.

The CHAIRMAN, in bringing forward this important subject, said that he had it on good authority that it was proposed to build the new bridge on the existing piers, in which case unless an efficient temporary bridge were

erected, it would be a most serious thing for the districts served by this road, there being no alternative route.

It was resolved that the Hon. Secretary should write to the Director of Public Works and ask if the bridge is to be built on the old piers, and, if so, what accommodation is suggested for the conveyance of passengers and goods across the Mahaweliganga while the new structure is being erected.

MOTOR LORRY PASSING STATIONS ON GRANT-IN-AID ROADS.

It was resolved that this subject be left to the Local Committee.

BENCHING CORNERS.

It was proposed by Mr. G. FENNING and seconded by Mr. E. A. CLIVE that the Superintendents of Sanguhar and Ascot estates be written to, to find out if the land will be given free on these estates for the purpose of cutting back corners on the cart road.—Carried.

GAMPOLA-NAWALAPITIYA ROAD.

This road came up for discussion, and it was pointed out that, though the section between Gampola and Tambiligalla had lately been remetalled, it was in a bad condition, the surface being most uneven through the bad laying and rolling of the metal and owing to some of the cubes being largely composed of soft sandstone.

It was resolved that the Hon. Secretary should write to the District Engineer and point out these facts and ask that the road should receive further attention if possible. The Association again points out that a steam roller is urgently needed on this road.

POORASSIE BRIDGE.

Mr. UNWIN again brought this matter up, and asked the Association to again approach Government and ask them to pay half the cost of a new bridge to replace the present one which is in a most dangerous condition. He pointed out that the bridge is much used by the public generally, besides directly serving a large area.

The CHAIRMAN asked Mr. Unwin to get details of figures showing to what extent the bridge is used. The Hon. Secretary would then forward another petition to Government asking for their aid.

MANDAPAM CAMP.

One or two members brought forward complaints which had been made to them of bad food at this Depot. The Chairman replying said that this matter was already being taken up by the Parent Association.

THE CHAPLAINCY.

It was resolved that the Pussellawa Chaplain be written to and informed that the Committee appointed in Gampola report that the result of their enquiries shows that the district does not favour the inclusion of Gampola in the Pussellawa Chaplaincy.

P. P. C. WALKER,
Hon. Secretary.



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Vol. II.]

OCTOBER, 1914.

[No. 8

MARRIAGE.

The engagement is announced of Mr. John Still, son of the late the Rev. Canon Still of Hethersett, Norwich, and the Hon. Victoria Hicks-Beach, youngest daughter of the Rt. Hon. the Viscount St. Aldwyn of Coln St. Aldwyn, County Gloucester.



THE events of the last month have brought us in Ceylon very much nearer to the war. Not only has the sprightly "Emden" been almost at our gates and done much more than her fair share of damage, but over two hundred of our friends and brother planters are already in hard training at Diyatalawa and will doubtless be at the front shortly. May all good fortune follow them, and may their record be as full of hard fighting as they can wish. It seems a pity that a whole battalion of planters was not raised in India, Malaya, and Ceylon. It would not have been difficult to get a thousand men, and with a few months' fighting they would have formed a valuable reserve of men fit to become officers. We must be prepared to hear very little of our small Contingent for a long time, very likely we may not even know where they are in a few months. But we can feel sure that they will be among the very best, hardest, and fittest of the men who have volunteered. Ceylon has sent few men, she is a small place, but those who are going are just about the best we could have picked to send. We wish them luck and hope they will bring back the Kaiser to spend the evening of his days in Kandy.

The gift of Tea from Ceylon has not, up to the time of writing, met with response worthy of Ceylon. Perhaps it is true that subscription lists are coming round very fast and often just now, but they will be coming faster and oftener in a short time if the war goes on as long as appears likely. We must give and keep on giving until we have pruned off our luxuries and curtailed our comforts. And what, after all, are we giving to compare with what others are giving? It is often the poorest who are ready to give the most, and Ceylon is probably more remote from poverty than any other unit of the Empire, so remote indeed that

even its beggars are rich in material comfort beside the average agriculturist labourer in Europe. If Ceylon does not give until it hurts each one of us, then Ceylon is not taking its place fairly among the people of the Empire.

GERMAN STATECRAFT REVEALED.

The day on which England delivered her ultimatum to Germany the GERMAN CHANCELLOR made a speech in the Reichstag which seems destined to be memorable in the annals of civilization. It is, we believe, the most crude avowal on record of utter immorality on the part of a great State. That avowal is the more striking because it is made by a statesman who has won respect and confidence in this country for his upright personal character and for the sense of justice and fairness he was supposed to entertain. He has shown us himself how the most just and reasonable of German politicians can think and speak when their interests come into conflict with the rights of other men. The passage which our Berlin Correspondent quoted yesterday reveals in all its nakedness the true basis of Prusso-German *Realpolitik*. The CHANCELLOR is frank; he essays no disguise. "Necessity," he says, "knows no law." The French, he admits, had pledged themselves to respect Belgian neutrality, but they "stood ready for the invasion." Therefore, Germany knew no law. Therefore she had occupied Luxemburg and had violated the Belgian frontiers. These acts HERR VON BETHMANN HOLLWEG acknowledges are "against the dictates of international law." What of that? Germany would repair "the wrong she was committing" when she had reached "her military goal." The importance of that goal explains everything. The end justifies the means. Men threatened, as the Germans affected to suppose themselves threatened, could think of nothing but how "to hack their way through"—to hack their way through, as they have been hacking it before Liège, without a thought for the seas of innocent blood they are shedding in the quarrel which the GERMAN CHANCELLOR himself proclaims to be unjust. Observers of German policy and students of Prussian history have long known that these principles were cherished by the heirs of the Frederician tradition. They have seen them inculcated and held up to admiration in the works of eminent professors and of distinguished military writers. They are familiar with them in the essays and

speeches of the Naval League and in the articles of the Pan-German Press. They have beheld the partial application of the doctrine at Algeiras, at Agadir, and on innumerable lesser occasions. They have expected for years to see them adopted in some grand adventure. But they did not expect to hear HERR VON BETHMANN HOLLWEG openly preach the creed of MACHIAVELLI in its most repulsive shape to the elected representatives of the nation which boasts its high culture and its lofty ideals to mankind.

The doctrine, as we have said, is traditional in Berlin. It is the doctrine of HAUGWITZ as it is the doctrine of BISMARCK and of FREDERICK. But FREDERICK and BISMARCK applied it with an intimate knowledge of the factors with which they had to deal. The Prusso-Germans of to-day have mistaken those factors as grossly as HAUGWITZ himself. It is not the outrages on all sides which they have committed that surprise students of their past; it is the ignorance and the stupidity with which they have set about those outrages. In every quarter—in Russia, in Italy, in France, in Belgium, and above all in the British Empire—they have displayed an incapacity to appreciate facts which were perfectly obvious, and which it was vital for them to grasp, that is amazing. If we are to believe them, they gave Austria-Hungary a free hand in her dealings with Serbia. They were startled and shocked when they saw in the Austro-Hungarian Note the first result of the unaccustomed liberty they had allowed their ally. Nevertheless, they justified and supported her demands without realizing at first that they were jeopardizing the peace of Europe. They thought that everybody was unready except Germany. They forgot the strength of Russian Pan-Slav and Pan-Orthodox passion. M. SAZONOFF explained the GERMAN AMBASSADOR at Vienna, could control it if he chose. Russia had no right to intervene, and he doubted if she would try. Neither she nor France was ready, while Germany "knew very well what she was about." They had no eyes save for what was superficial. They were struck by our divisions, by gun-running and the rival Volunteer movements, by the talk of some of our Socialists, and by the menace of impending strikes. The CAILLAUX scandal, the defeat of the RIBOT Ministry and of M. DELCASSE, the spectacle of an ex-Socialist Prime Minister governing with the help of a raw Chamber, which numbered over a hundred Socialists in its ranks, impressed them in France. Italy would, of course, hearken with docility to the admonitions of Berlin and lavish her blood and treasure in a war of aggression begun for the advantage of Austria-Hungary in the Balkans. Belgium would complacently prostitute her liberties to German military convenience at the mere rattle of the German sabre; if she was prudish, the invincible army of Sadowa and Sedan had but to "hack their way through." As for England, HERR VON BETHMANN HOLLWEG and his Imperial master could treat her as BISMARCK treated LOUIS NAPOLEON. She was credulous, she was bent on peace at any price. She should have both—ample assurances and peace with infamy.

We need not point out how every one of these assumptions has proved false. They were transparently shallow.

They ignored elementary truths felt by the "man in the street" in each of the countries to which they relate. Yet it was upon them and other notions equally flimsy that the "small change of BISMARCK" in the Wilhelmstrasse and at Potsdam sought to base a scheme that should rival his. It was easy to be as unmoral; it was harder to be unmoral with like profit. The man of "blood and iron" doubtless held HERR VON BETHMANN HOLLWEG's doctrines. He would never have flung them in the face of the world on the eve of a European war. He would not have underestimated the Slav sentiment of Russia, the anti-Austrian sentiment of Italy, the strength and resolution of French patriotism, the devotion of the Belgians to their free country, or even the strength of their fortresses. He would not have committed the fatuous error—worthy of the besotted diplomacy of the East—of begging England to stand aside while he trampled upon Belgium and invaded France. From France he did estrange us for a time—from the France of the Third Empire. But the manipulator of the Ems telegram knew how to choose his means. He published in these columns a draft treaty which he had discussed with M. BENEDETTI, NAPOLEON'S Ambassador in Berlin. He said it was a French project which he had but pretended to entertain, the better to deceive NAPOLEON and to keep him "le bec dans l'eau." He was not, we may suspect, so innocent in his purpose as he declares; but the blow was the blow of a master, for the draft treaty proposed that Germany should agree to a French annexation of Belgium. BISMARCK had the knowledge and the insight to realize how such a project would revolt English thought and English feeling. From the "infamous proposals" of those who now direct the Wilhelmstrasse all perception of the kind is signally absent. And, to the astonishment of all men, a like insensibility to all views but the German view pervades the whole field of German statecraft. It suffers from the fatal error which the hardest of all realists so often denounced—the error of "seeing pictures" instead of realities. It sees nothing that it is not fain to see, and has shut its eyes to that most important of realities, the national feeling of other peoples. That is why it has launched Europe into war, and why it openly preaches to a bewildered world that for the people of GOETHE and of KANT there is no law but the sword.—*The Times*.

THE CULTIVATION OF TEA IN THE CASPIAN PROVINCES OF PERSIA.

(By G. D. Hope, B. Sc., P.H.D., F.C.S.)

In June last during the period of my leave from India, crossing Europe, I travelled as far as Baku on the Caspian Sea—the first stage of a journey made with the object of visiting some of the small tea gardens in Trans-Caucasia. On arrival in Baku I learnt from the British Consul that in addition to a number of tea gardens under Russian management in the neighbourhood of Batoum on the Black Sea there were a few small gardens also in North Persia, near Resht, and these I visited.

These gardens are owned and managed by Persians, and the history of the enterprise is to the effect that some ten years ago a Persian prince, named Kashaf-es-Sultaneh brought some tea seed from India, and hired the services of a Persian who had spent several years in India and China, and studied tea in these countries, to instruct the Persian villagers. This man died some years ago in the neighbourhood of Resht.

I cannot vouch for the complete accuracy even of this scanty account. It was obtained in conversation in Persian between the British Consul and a friend of the owner of a small tea garden and was translated into English for my benefit by the former.

The tea gardens in this part of the world are not of any great commercial importance at present, but what was at once obvious to me was that here, immediately south of the Caspian Sea between it and the Elburz Mountains, which form the northern edge of the great Persian plateau, is a country eminently suited, geographically and climatically, for tea cultivation, while I believe I am right in saying that in no other part of Persia would this be possible on account of the low rainfall. I made therefore as many enquiries as possible relating to the natural features of this tract while I was there, and I have been at some pains since then to add to the information I obtained. I propose to give a short general account of this part of Persia before describing the conditions under which tea is cultivated and manufactured there.

Persia is chiefly a country of high elevations and the centre of the country consists of a large elevated plateau. The real lowlands of Persia are the tracts near the sea coast belonging to the forest clad provinces of the Caspian in the north and the shores of the Persian Gulf below Basra and elsewhere in the south. In the north the rocks of the elevated plateau are thrown into folds which form a curve round the southern portion of the Caspian. These are the Elburz Mountains. They are composed of a variety of the older types of rock such as gneiss, granite, crystalline schists, limestone, etc. In these mountains there are also recent volcanoes. The tracts north of these mountains and immediately south of the Caspian into which they drain are not more than twenty to fifty miles wide. That on the south-west of the Caspian widens out to two hundred and fifty miles from the watershed to the Tigris and Euphrates and Lake Van. On the east also the watershed of the Caspian gradually increases in breadth. Three rivers belonging essentially to Persia in reference to the Caspian watershed, are the Sefid Rud or Kizil Uzun on the south-west, and the Gorgan and Atrek at the south-east corner of the Caspian. The Sefid Rud flows into the Caspian fifty-seven miles east of Resht and the distance from where it breaks through the Elburz Mountains to the sea is seventy miles. I crossed this river on my way from Resht to Lahijan where there is a small tea garden.

These three provinces have an entirely different climate from that which is typical of Persia proper.

This shows itself in the nature of the agriculture and in the fauna and flora of the tract. They form for example one of the five special faunal areas into which Persia is divided. In the Caspian provinces Blanford found the fauna on the whole Palaearctic, most of the animals being identical with those of south-east Europe, but some are essentially endemic, and a singular character is given to the fauna by the presence of certain eastern forms unknown in other parts of Persia, such as the tiger, which is found only in the Caspian provinces and is common near Astarabad, and a remarkable deer of the Indo-Malayan group.

In the provinces of Gilan, Mazanderan and Astarabad, from the shores of the Caspian to an altitude of about 3,000 feet, on the northern slopes of the great mountain range which separates those provinces from the rest of Persia, the flora is similar to that described as Mediterranean. Mazanderan, Gilan, and Astarabad are among the most important rice growing districts of Persia and these provinces produce enough to export. The olive is cultivated near Resht and good oranges are cheap in Mazanderan. Since 1875 a kind of tobacco known as *tutun* (*Nicotiana rustica*) has been grown near Resht and it appears to flourish exceedingly there. Cotton is grown also in the neighbourhood of Resht. Good hemp grows wild in Mazanderan. Castor oil, sesame, and linseed are also grown in Gilan and Mazanderan. Wine in these provinces is made from wild grapes. The timber forests of Gilan and Mazanderan afford valuable boxwood. The exports of timber including boxwood amounts in some years to as much as £50,000. The monopoly is leased to European firms and the exports consist chiefly of box and oak, and also of alder, ash, beech, elm, hornbeam, juniper, maple, walnut, poplar, etc. Timber is also burnt to clean land for rice. The forest of the lower hills of the northern slopes of the Elburz Mountains are similar in general appearance from a distance to the lower ranges of the Naga hills in Assam.

The rainfall of the Caspian watershed greatly exceeds that of inner Persia. At Astarabad and Ashuradeh at the south-east corner of the Caspian it is about fifty per cent. more than anywhere on the Persian plateau proper. At Resht and Lenkoran in the south-west corner (Lenkoran is actually in Russian Trans-Caucasia) it is from four to five times that of the adjoining district across the ridge to the south. At Resht the annual rainfall is recorded as being about 56" while at Teheran, across the ridge to the south, about one hundred and fifty miles distant, it is 9.86," and on the Persian Gulf at Jask it is only 3.24." With the exception of the Caspian watershed and of that of the Urmia basin and possibly part of Khuzistan, north of Mohammerah, the country has probably in no part a yearly rainfall exceeding 13" or 14" and throughout the great part of central and south-east Persia the yearly rain

probably does not exceed 6". The following is a table showing rainfall and altitude in several places in the Caspian provinces and in few other parts of Persia:—

	Altitude.	Rainfall.
*Lenkoran ...	= 60 ft. ...	46.82 in.
*Resht ...	= 50 „ ...	56.45 „
*Ashuradeh ...	= 80 „ ...	17.17 „
*Astarabad ...	= 40 „ ...	16.28 „
Urmia ...	6,225 „ ...	21.50 „
Teheran ...	3,810 „ ...	9.86 „
Bushire ...	— „ ...	13.26 „
Ispahan ...	5,370 „ ...	5.44 „

*These places are in the tracts bordering on the Caspian Sea.

Along the shores of the Caspian, particularly in Gilan and Mazanderan and also along the Persian Gulf from the Shatt-el-arab down to Bundar Abbas the air during the greater part of the year contains much moisture and the dry and wet bulb thermometers sometimes record the same temperature showing that the air is saturated with moisture. At night heavy dews fall. In Gilan and Mazanderan, however, the air contains much moisture up to considerable elevations and as far as from thirty to forty miles from the sea, but along the Persian Gulf, where vegetation is very scanty, places only a few miles away from the coast and not more than twenty to thirty feet above sea-level have comparatively dry climates.

During December and January a dry warm wind comes down from the snowy Elburz Mountains to Gilan. This resembles the *föhn* a wind which blows in the Alps, and both are due to a periodic movement of air from one side of a range of mountains to another which sets up on account of inequalities of pressure. The rain falls chiefly during the winter.

Statistics of temperature are difficult to obtain. There are occasional frosts but these occur very seldom and the lowest temperature ever recorded was 25 degrees F. Snow falls only rarely. In winter, while the north part of the Caspian may be frozen over the climate of the Persian shore of that sea may be like that of Madeira. There are often morning fogs. The climate for the greatest part of the year is hot, humid, and unhealthy. The air is almost saturated with moisture. There is however a dry spell in the middle of the summer, but this is not of sufficient duration to interfere seriously with the growth of tea though there is a temporary cessation of crop during that period.

The soil of the district between the Elburz Mountains and the sea is in general clayey in character but that on the slightly higher ground inland near the Elburz Mountains consists of rich red loam. On this red bank two if not more small tea-gardens are situated. The three districts where to my knowledge tea is grown are Fumen, Lahijan and Langrud in the province of Gilan. I saw a small garden at Abata near Fumen and another at Lahijan, both of which have red loamy soils. Langrud which is rather nearer the sea, I did not visit, and I do not know the nature of the

soil there. The soil of the Fumen and Lahijan gardens appeared to me to be admirably suited for tea. The following are mechanical analyses of samples which I took at the time of my visits.

	The soil from Fumen.	The soil from Lahijan.
Moisture	1.88%	1.90%
Organic matter	6.32%	7.24%
Soluble in acid	1.11%	1.04%
Coarse sand	2.18%	8.06%
Fine sand	18.14%	11.86%
Silt	50.52%	45.55%
Fine silt	7.56%	10.50%
Clay	18.61%	21.09%

The texture of these soils is very different from those of the tea soils of North East India. A noticeable feature in them is the small amount of fine silt and the large amount of silt. I know of no instance of a tea soil of North East India containing so high a percentage of silt. The only example of a soil approximating to these in character is one defined by Hall in his book on soils as a light loamy sub-soil and having the following composition:—

Sand	...	...	29.4
Silt	...	...	40.8
Fine silt	...	...	5.7
Clay	...	...	16.4

But this latter soil is undoubtedly rather lighter in texture owing to the presence of a larger percentage of coarse sand. No tea soils of North East India which I have analysed in the same way approach at all these soils in character.

From the foregoing it will be clear that the Caspian provinces of Persia possess a climate, situation, and soil well suited to tea. As far as can be judged the district, chiefly on account of a comparatively low temperature, is not one in which the yield would be exceedingly large, but that comparatively cool nights such as occur there do not militate seriously against good crops is indicated by the case of Java and other countries where hot nights such as are experienced in the summer months in India do not occur in the tea growing districts. It is highly probable too that if the tea bushes here were of better type and properly cultivated, pruned, and plucked, they might yield tea of fair quality. A definite cold weather such as is experienced in this tract has a beneficial influence undoubtedly on the quality of tea.

Labour is much more likely to prove the limiting factor in the extension of the tea industry in the district. What little information I was able to gather on the subject is given below in describing the work done on the few gardens which exist at present. These provinces are the wealthiest in Persia, and even the poorest of the inhabitants are comparatively well off and prefer to work on their own land to becoming the servants of others.

I have already stated that the existing gardens are not of any commercial importance at present. The bushes are small, and of poor type, the cultivation scanty, and the methods, if the term can be used, of plucking and pruning primitive. The following is a description of a garden near Lahijan which I visited and of the kinds of cultivation, etc., carried out there. Some of the information was obtained from the owner of this and several other small estates.

The seed is sown in autumn to as late as the middle of November, and it is left in the nursery until it is two years old, when it is about a quarter of a *zar* high (1 *zar* equals 40.95 in.). The seedlings are planted out in spring or autumn. The tea is not plucked until it is four years old from seed but the ground is hoed to remove weeds. After the tea reaches the age of four years it is plucked regularly during the summer months. The leaf plucked in the spring is of better quality than that plucked later in the season. If there is a drought during the summer the bushes stop flushing. The pluckings are at intervals of about ten days. The pruning consists of cutting down the bushes to a suitable height in the autumn by means of clippers. I did not notice any diseases on the plants but I was informed that seedlings had been known to be killed by excessive wet. Hoeing is carried on every ten days and at the same time as plucking. The tools used for cultivation are a *bil*, a kind of hoe and a *japar*, a spade with a bar of iron placed so as to enable the digger to exert pressure by putting his foot on it. The latter is the typical Persian spade.

1 *jereeb* (i.e., 10,000 square *zar* equals about 2.7 acres) is worked by two labourers. In Lahijan there are no gardens larger than five *jereeb*s and all the tea in Lahijan and Langrud does not total more than twenty *jereeb*s.

On the gardens which I saw the arrangement of the planting was square and the distance between the bushes was one *zar*.

The methods of manufacture likewise are primitive in the extreme. After the leaf is plucked it is left for about fifteen hours before it is manufactured and this permits of a certain amount of withering. It is then hand-rolled and dried in a wooden box resembling a small Sirocco and containing a set of four trays made of wood with mul-mul bottoms. The box is heated from below by means of a charcoal fire and the drying is said to take from one to one and a half hours.

The labour used in these little tea gardens is obtained locally and there are the two systems—free and contract labour. A free labourer is paid about one *quran* (1 *quran* is about 4½d) a day but during the time of rice cultivation there is the same difficulty about obtaining labour for tea gardens which is not unknown elsewhere. Contract labour consists of villagers who live in the neighbourhood. They are paid a fixed sum of *tomans* annually and also receive rice free. In addition to this nomadic Kurds from Khal-khal between Gilan and Tabriz work in winter. Their pay is one *quran* a day and six *man shahs* (1 *man shah* equals 13 lbs.) of rice a month. If labour of this type is scarce special inducements are offered in the shape of an increased wage amounting to one and a half *qurans* a day.

LOCAL SUPPLIES OF ACETIC ACID.

Owing to numerous enquiries which have been addressed to the Department of Agriculture with regard to the possible local production of a crude acetic acid suitable for the coagulation of *Hevea* latex, it has been decided to issue forthwith a preliminary statement in order that the position may be more clearly understood by those interested. On ascertaining that there would probably be a shortage of acetic acid and other imported coagulants, the Department began to investigate the possible coagulants which could be obtained locally, working on the assumption that the extreme emergency for which we should be prepared would be an almost total stoppage of suitable imported coagulants. In putting forward proposals for steps to be taken in the case of the emergency it is not inferred that other and more suitable coagulants may not eventually be imported to meet the case. But we cannot depend on such an event at the present.

It was obvious that a supply of crude acid could be obtained as in Europe by the distillation of woody and other vegetable matter.

If wood is used it is left for some considerable time to dry; hard woods are more suitable than soft. The best material to use from the point of view of compactness and dryness seemed to be coconut shell, and this has yielded very satisfactory results.

The process consists in distilling, without water, quantity of dry coconut shells in a closed retort—the condenser tube taking the form of a metal coil immersed in a barrel of running water. No part of the apparatus should be of copper as there would be a danger of traces of this metal finding their way into the acid possibly giving rise to tackiness in the rubber. The retort may take the form of a cast or rolled iron pipe of suitable dimensions or else of some form of 'boiler' shaped retort. The size will, of course, vary according to the quantity of acid required.

On the whole a horizontal retort is the most suitable as it will permit of the raking out of charcoal at one end and recharging with fresh material. Such a horizontal retort will have an air-tight plate clamped over each end, one being removable in order to change and clean out the interior of the retort.

An exit tube for the vapour would lead out of the top of one end of the retort to the condenser. The vertical form of retort would have a cover and exit tube as in the previous case. The cover would have to be movable in order to charge and clean the retort. This process would not be so easy as in the case of horizontal retort. The retort is supported by brick framework which also contains the fire which heats the retort.

Fields can be given only with the greatest caution as they will depend on the efficiency of the apparatus used. At Peradeniya the apparatus consists of a small coal retort—practically a narrow iron pipe with clamped plates at the ends. It takes a charge of four lbs. broken coconut shells at a time. On charging the retort with broken coconut shell and lighting the fire under the retort, fumes contain-

ing permanent inflammable gas will emerge from the end of the condenser tube; subsequently a tarry liquid will begin to collect in the vessel placed at the end of the condenser tube. The retort must not be heated too strongly—not to red heat for instance—but just sufficiently strongly to decompose the material and convert it to charcoal. When liquid ceases to appear at the end of the condenser it is time to recharge the retort.

The liquid collected is allowed to settle in a closed vessel for some days. It will then be found to have separated into tar, most of which will have collected at the bottom and a dark brown watery liquid—the crude or pyroligneous acid.

This is syphoned off and filtered through some material such as blotting paper to remove globules of tar. It is then ready for use. A dilute solution is first prepared by adding to every part of the crude acid, nine parts of water. Of this dilute acid use about sixteen ounces to every gallon of latex. It may be possible to use less than this quantity on some estates; the minimum quantity should be used.

This will hardly be suitable for the purposes of making pale crepe though by the addition of sodium bisulphite a moderately pale crepe has been obtained.

This crude acid is however most suitable for use on estates where smoked sheet is made.

YIELDS.

These yields are only given provisionally as being obtained with the small plant at Peradeniya on small quantities of material—they should however afford useful indications of the yields which could be obtained on a larger scale.

From ten lbs. dry-coconut shell there were obtained about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tar and $2\frac{1}{2}$ –3 lbs. crude pyroligneous acid (containing about twelve per cent. acetic acid).

This after separating from tar and filtering is made up for use by adding one volume to nine of water and adding sixteen ounces of the mixture to every gallon latex.

The crude pyroligneous acid cannot be completely decoloured permanently by any simple means. Part of the tar is steam-volatile and the distillate would gradually darken again on keeping.

By keeping the acid in contact with charcoal for some time and re-distilling some improvement might be attained.

It has been mentioned above that it has been found possible to obtain a fairly pale rubber by this crude acid with the help of sodium bisulphate, but in view of difficulties arising in this connection or of the supply of bisulphate failing and also in order to ascertain whether other local products would serve to coagulate latex, investigations have been made with toddy vinegar. This is a crude form of acetic acid, of which it contains three to five per cent. Latex has been successfully coagulated with it and yielded a pale rubber.

One sample was satisfactorily coagulated the proportion used being three ounces toddy vinegar to one gallon latex (three lbs. dry rubber per gallon). This coagulation was lengthy and took several hours. When four ounces per

gallon latex were used coagulation was complete in two hours.

The rubbers obtained were quite pale and when combined with the use of sodium bisulphate this process yielded a very pale rubber indeed.

It is important that this toddy vinegar should be bought under guarantee that it contained no copper. Otherwise it would have to be re-distilled. Assuring that an adulterated toddy vinegar is bought at Rupee one per lb. and four ounces are necessary to coagulate one gallon normal latex than one lb. dry rubber would necessitate the expenditure of 0.83 cents in toddy vinegar.

This is undoubtedly high as compared with acetic acid. The Department is however merely indicating a local source of supply of acid which could be used in an emergency.

The production of crude acid from coconut shells should cost very much less than 0.8 cents per lb. rubber. There appear to be no figures enabling one to estimate the total amount of toddy vinegar now produced in the Island.

The above facts are given in order that the public may understand that local sources of acetic acid exist and may be utilised. Other possible sources of acetic acid are being investigated. It is not suggested that they are by any means ideal or that their use may not have objections.

One of the great advantages of glacial acetic acid has been that it has assisted largely in standardisation, the strength being known. The strength of wood distillates, etc. will be liable to variation as will also be those of toddy and other vinegars.

L. E. CAMPBELL.

Acting Government Chemist

Peradeniya,

21st September, 1914.

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya, on September 3rd, 1914.

Present:—The Director, Agriculture (in the Chair, the Government Botanist and Mycologist; the Government Entomologist, the Hon'ble the Government Agent, Central Province; Messrs. G. H. Masfield, A. S. Long Price, R. Huyshe Eliot, Hew Kennedy, A. W. Beven, C. Driberg, G. Harbord, H. F. Macmillan, H. Inglis, W. N. Tisdall, L. E. Campbell, J. S. Patterson, N. G. Campbell, and as visitors, Messrs. A. Baker, K. B. Beddewela, W. B. Westland, H. Scoble Nicholson, E. C. Villiers, Geo. Brown, and H. A. Maclaren; and the Secretary.

Mr. Petch called attention to an error in the minutes of the last meeting in paragraph 3. Instead of Wickham smoked crepe it should be ordinary plantation crepe. The necessary alteration was made.

2. Referring to the Progress Reports the Chairman stated that the price of green tea leaf offered by the New Peradeniya Estate had dropped to four cents per lb., and there being no other purchasers of leaf within a reasonable

distance, he invited suggestions. Mr. Masefield suggested that if we had a sufficient quantity of leaf it be made into tea and kept till the market became more settled. Otherwise the equivalent of made tea might be credited on the sale of same less charges. Resolved that enquiries be made as to the feasibility of these suggestions.

Referring to cacao the Chairman stated that he would very much like the Committee to make an inspection of the crop which he thought a very satisfactory one. He thought that one thing at least the Experiment Station had clearly demonstrated and that was how cacao could be profitably grown by means of good cultivation. A Bulletin has been prepared and would be published as soon as possible.

The young Hevea rubber plantation on the hill-top would also repay a visit, demonstrating the satisfactory growth of young trees in response to systematic mulching with green manure. One of the objects of this experiment was to show the results of simple and good cultivation during the early stages, supplying their requirements as much as possible by natural means.

The bananas and Sudan Dura were also worth inspection. The former, besides showing the fine and rapid growth and big bunches of fruit due to cultivation, also illustrated the effect of dynamiting by the advanced condition of those so treated. The Dura was now in grain and made a very striking show and by next meeting would be harvested. The Chairman thought the entrance to the Experiment Station would be greatly improved if the old tennis court and cattle compound were laid out in show plots of various products, and to this the Committee agreed.

Mr. BEVEN called attention to the state of the coconut trade as a result of the war. Copra had been down to as low as Rs. 40 per candy, but had risen lately to Rs. 50, but he had heard that there was not much likelihood of a further rise until a year after the war had ceased. Mr. Long Price replied that he thought many planters and firms were now shipping direct to London instead of Germany, who had up to now purchased about 70 per cent. of the copra from Ceylon. Germany did not consume this product, but merely manufactured it into other coconut products for export, and he understood that England herself would take up the manufacturing of these. The only difficulty was the erection of the necessary plant.

The CHAIRMAN referred to the Dry Zone Progress Reports and stated that the clearing and preparation of the land at the new Anuradhapura Station was progressing satisfactorily.

3. The Chairman wished to know from the Committee whether they had any idea if there was likely to be a serious shortage of acetic acid for coagulating rubber as a result of the war, seeing that the chief source of supply came from Germany and Austria. If so, he thought it was the duty of this Committee to consider beforehand how such shortage could best be coped with. Messrs. Huyshe Eliot and Tisdall thought there was not much likelihood of shortage, as most estates had a supply in stock, for from six

to eight months, besides which, they were conserving it as much as possible. It was the general practice to use too much acetic acid in coagulation. But Messrs. Inglis and Long Price thought there might very well be a short age, as the stores in Colombo were never able to supply any large quantity at a time.

Mr. BEVEN called attention to Mr. Bamber's memorandum on this subject which he understood had been laid before the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary, in which it was proposed to exploit timber for the manufacture of charcoal, acetic acid being a by-product.

It was thought that there were many other sources from which acetic acid might be obtained which were worth investigation, *e.g.*, coir fibre, coconut water, coconut toddy, and the juice from fermenting cacao being mentioned. Mr. Beven was asked by the Chairman to obtain a sample of coconut vinegar and send it to the Hyde Park Corner Laboratory for analysis, together with details of cost and other data. The plant required for such manufacture would not be very expensive to set up.

Mr. PATTERSON then brought up the subject of Messrs. Freudenberg's patent on the manufacture of "Martinol" from coconut shells and other matter, and a discussion arose as to whether this patent covered the source from whence "Martinol" was distilled, the process or the plant used.

The CHAIRMAN stated he thought it was impossible to patent a principle but only an apparatus for applying a principle and that acetic acid or any other rubber coagulant could be produced from any source as long as a patented apparatus was not used.

Mr. PATTERSON then formed the following resolution:—"That this meeting requests the Chairman to ask Government to permit of the erection of plant necessary for making crude acetic acid from ligneous or other vegetable material, irrespective of any existing patents."

The CHAIRMAN then passed round some diamond smoked sheet prepared by the Agar process as an example of diamond smoked sheet prepared without acid.

4. The CHAIRMAN said that no doubt the Committee was aware that Mr. Scherffius, the new Tobacco Expert, had arrived from America, and had taken up his duties at Jaffna. But it was desirable that other places in the Island which offered reasonable possibilities for tobacco growing should be investigated and invited suggestions. Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Dumbura, Matle, Chilaw were mentioned among other places.

5. With regard to the appointment of the Head of the Experiment Department, the Chairman stated that the gentleman to whom the appointment had been offered would not take up the post. He would welcome any suggestions from the Committee on the matter.

The Entomologist appointed to undertake the investigation of Shot-Hole Borer in tea had gone to America where he was studying, under the direction of Dr. Hopkins, the Head of the Division of Forest Insects of the Bureau of Entomology, the habits of and methods of controlling insects of the same group as our shot-hole borer of tea, and which chiefly attack timber in the United States of

America. He would probably arrive here early next year and the Chairman requested the Committee to consider where the most suitable places would be for him to start his work and on estates where accommodation could be found for him. Plans could then be formulated, so that he would be able to take up his work without delay the moment he arrived. He would probably have to remain at least six months at each place. Mr. Hew Kennedy said he would mention this at the Planters' meeting next day. Mr. Patterson asked if anything further was known as regards the burying of tea prunings to get rid of shot-hole borer? Mr. Rutherford replied that in an experiment he had been conducting he found that in prunings buried under estate conditions, that beetles were alive and breeding in the branches at the end of a month, and that all his observations and the fact that the beetle had continued to make headway in spite of prunings having been buried, went to show that the burial of prunings could not be regarded as a means of effectually controlling the beetle.

Mr. HUTSHE ELIOT thought that Mr. Green's idea in originating this method, was not necessarily the destruction of the beetle, but that by increasing the cultivation in disturbing the soil and adding humus, the healthier and stronger plants were more able to resist the attack. This would, of course, be lost by burning the prunings.

The CHAIRMAN said that as opinions on the two methods were so divided, the subject were best left undiscussed until the new Entomologist had thoroughly investigated the subject.

6. Mr. PATTERSON said he had sent some leaves of three-year old coconut palms which were affected by gray blight and wished to know if there were any serious consequences to be feared from this disease. The Botanist and Mycologist stated that Gray Blight had been known in the Island for at least thirty years, but had never been considered serious. The fungus on the coconut leaves was identical with that causing Gray Blight on tea. In the case of young coconut palms, about a year old, it might be advisable to spray them if they were badly attacked. In the case of older trees, cultivation and manuring would prevent any serious damage. Mr. Long Price agreed with this.

7. With regard to the Rubber Exhibition in London, this opened up such a large question for discussion that the Chairman felt that at the time at his disposal he could only touch on one or two things. But he was writing a full report to Government which would no doubt be published.

He said that undoubtedly the Ceylon Pavilion was the most popular, chiefly owing to the variety of products displayed besides rubber.

He handed round a small piece of synthetic rubber manufactured from Indian cotton by the same firm who were proposing to manufacture it from artichoke stems. He asked the Committee to refrain from pulling it about as he had experienced great difficulty in obtaining this small sample and it might not stand hard treatment.

Mr. CAMPBELL was asked to make microscopical analysis of it. He handed round some articles that could only be made from plantation rubber adding that on close enquiry he could only find very few articles that could only be made from fine hard Para. A large block of the best hard Para was on its way out for purposes of comparison.

Mr. MASEFIELD enquired as to whether the Chairman had any idea as to why the Federated Malay States had carried off so many more prizes in the competition than Ceylon. The Chairman replied he did not know, but would enquire of the Rubber Growers' Association by which the competition was held. The Federated Malay States exhibited chiefly crepe, Ceylon blanket crepe.

This terminated the meeting.

There was on exhibition several photographs of the London Exhibition and several samples of rubber, besides a bale of Teff hay and some fine samples of tomatoes.

D. S. CORLETT,

Secretary.

Committee of Agricultural Experiments.

Peradeniya,

18th September, 1914.

MINUTES OF AN EMERGENCY MEETING CALLED BY THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA and held at the Chamber of Commerce, Kuala Lumpur, on 6th August, 1914, at noon.

1. Mr. F. G. HARVEY explains that he had been asked to take the Chair in the absence of both Mr. Macfadyen and Mr. Skinner, who were away in Singapore in connection with the present crisis.

The present meeting was an extraordinary one called on the 4th instant by telegram addressed to all the Secretaries of Constituent Associations and to the members of the Standing Committee.

He explains that on the 4th a hurried meeting had been called at the Chartered Bank at which heads of estate agencies and two or three managers of local banks were present. That meeting was to find out what was the financial position of the country, more especially with regard to the estates. The banks unfortunately were unable to give them any guarantee of financial assistance whatever, owing to the fact that code cables had been entirely suspended. Unless they received instructions in their private codes to place money to the credit of estates they absolutely refused to take any note of telegrams in plain English. The present meeting had been called to decide what action should be taken next Saturday, their pay day. The one objection to paying wages in full would be that the cash so distributed was likely to be hoarded up, and what was desired in this crisis was that all money should be kept in rapid circulation, so that the less they gave the more likely would it come back into the banks and be paid out again. The Government had agreed to suspend the sections of the Labour Code relating to truck and the payment of wages.

He asked first of all for suggestions regarding Tamil coolies.

2. Mr. JARVIS suggests one gantang of rice per week for single men and one and a half for family men.

Mr. CARTER prefers to give out two gantangs and twenty five cents every ten days.

Mr. AYRIS proposes four gantangs per month.

Mr. FALLON recommends one gantang and twenty-five cents per week.

Mr. PRIOR points out that, as curry stuff is required, the quantity of rice given should be ample. He would propose one and a half gantangs and twenty-five cents per week.

Mr. HENLY seconds, adding that these quantities were of course maxima, not minima.

Mr. ASH moves as an amendment four gantangs per month and twenty-five cents per week.

Mr. FALLON seconds, but at the instance of the Chair the amendment is further amended to five gantangs of rice per month and twenty-five cents per week.

The motion in its amended form is carried.

3. Mr. REEVE-TUCKER proposes, as regards Chinese, that the same lines be followed as those adopted by the mining community—i.e., to feed Chinese coolies and to pay them \$2 per month, or otherwise compound by a total maximum payment of \$7 per month.

Mr. JARVIS seconds the proposal, which is carried unanimously.

Mr. CAMPBELL informs the meeting that in Malacca they had unanimously agreed to tap on alternate days only, thereby placing the whole of their tapping force on half pay. Moreover, they had all agreed not to pay any wages in cash for the present and to make rice advances only.

4. Mr. STEWART enquires how Javanese indentured coolies are to be treated.

Mr. KINDERSLEY suggests in the case of free Javanese five gantangs of rice per month and \$4 per month.

Mr. HOSE points out that with regard to indentured Javanese their obligations could not be set aside lightly, though, in a crisis like the present, employers would probably be able to obtain the consent of their coolies to a temporary suspension of payments in full.

Mr. SHARPE-SMITH proposes that the payment of Javanese be left to the discretion of each individual employer.

Agreed to.

5. Mr. HOSE is authorized by the Chief Secretary to state what the Government was prepared to do in very exceptional cases. All local officers, such as District Officers, Labour, Mines and Protectorate Officers would be instructed to receive applications from employers who were unable through the impossibility of getting cash to buy rice. In such cases as they deemed very urgent the officers would issue rice tickets on Messrs. Boustead Hampshire & Co., or any other companies with whom the Government might come to an agreement. The former firm at any rate had undertaken to execute orders signed by a Government officer without payment of cash (loud applause). He would like to make it quite clear that this procedure was a very

exceptional one indeed, and he must appeal to all employers of labour to extend their own resources to the utmost before they applied for this assistance, because if it was applied for recklessly it would have to be stopped almost at once. He was sure everybody there understood the very critical position that the whole country stood in, and it was up to every individual of the community to do his utmost, by combining with the others loyally to avoid anything like a catastrophe (applause).

The Government realized the importance at the present time of not distributing more cash than was necessary to coolies who did not know what to do with it, and they accepted the general principle which had been suggested by employers of giving coolies their food and a small weekly advance, as far as possible uniform in amount, the coolies, of course, being credited in the books with the usual amount. The Government had consented to the officers of the Labour Department not taking action under the sections of the Labour Code which applied to punctual payments of wages and truck usages. Those sections would be in abeyance, of course, for as short a time as possible, but certainly so long as conditions were in their present uncertain state.

He would add that these rice tickets would be issued only on certain guarantees. The person who got the rice ticket would have to give an undertaking that he would pay the Government the cost of the rice at a later date, together with interest at ten per cent., and also that he would keep the number of labourers in respect of whom rice was given on his place of employment for such time as was considered sufficient for the supply of rice to last. If the second undertaking was not faithfully carried out any further applications for rice would not be granted. It was asked that employers who could not undertake this liability and had to discharge coolies would notify local officers of the Government in order to give them an opportunity, if possible, of offering employment to such coolies on public works. He did not mean relief works but public works that were being carried out.

The great object was to avoid unemployment as much as possible and to provide food for people who were prepared to work. If they could ensure that the labour force of this country was fed and kept in employment he thought they would have gone a long way to meet the difficulties of the present crisis, and Government were prepared to do their utmost to combine with employers in that respect. Only, as he said, Government must not be put upon in any way, for the sake of them all (applause).

The CHAIRMAN thinks Mr. HOSE's statement should give them great satisfaction. Government was certainly playing the game by the planters as far as it was able, and he hoped planters would do the same by the Government and not draw rice unless they absolutely needed it. He would like to ask how Government coolies would be dealt with.

Mr. HOSE replies that it had been suggested to all Government departments employing coolies that they should act on the same lines as private employers (applause).

Mr. JARVIS raises the question of drink-shops, urging that they should be closed.

The CHAIRMAN is confident that the cooly would have more sense than to spend his twenty-five cents a week on drink. The shops would soon close if they had no customers, and he thought Government had plenty to do without bothering about them.

Mr. CARTER suggests, to prevent abuse, that applications for rice should be submitted to the respective Rural Boards first.

Mr. PRIOR asks what steps were contemplated regarding further immigration.

Mr. HOSE informs the meeting that instructions had been issued that coolies who arrived the next day at Port Swettenham, if the ship was clean, would be removed to the depôt forthwith—not to the quarantine station—and would be despatched to the places of employment as quickly as possible. If the ship was infected they would not be allowed to land. Instructions had been sent to Madras and Negapatam to refuse all aided passages until further notice (applause).

6. Mr. AYRIS urges that Government should advance money against rubber and he understood Messrs. Macfadyen and Skinner were now in Singapore trying to arrange for this.

Mr. QUARTLEY hopes that importations of rice from India will be fostered.

Mr. MOONJAART recommends that the supply of tinned milk be reserved for hospitals, women and children.

Mr. JARVIS proposes that the Secretary get circulars printed in Tamil and Chinese setting out the temporary arrangements regarding pay arrived at to-day.

Mr. ASH seconds the proposal, which is unanimously agreed to.

The meeting terminates with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chair at 1 p.m.

H. C. E. ZACHARIAS,
Secretary.

NOTICE.

A FORMS.

I should be glad if Superintendents would advise me immediately they wish any A. form cancelled or in cases where they issue a fresh A. form on information received from the holder that the original A. form has been lost, as on receipt of such advice all my Agents are circularised and payments stopped accordingly. In no case should new A. forms be forwarded direct to kanganies at their request without notification being made to this Commission of such action, as in the absence of such notification there is nothing to prevent the kangany or cooly who intends to defraud from securing payments on both A. forms and this has been done in one or two instances of late.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

NOTICE.

Tickets on the Railway.

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kanganies proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

A Forms.

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September 1913.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution Referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Trichinopoly,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
14th October, 1913.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January 1913.

Coast Agency Cess.

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon

Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the *Planters' Gazette*."

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee, held on Friday, 8th May, 1914.

RESOLVED:—

"That in future instances of Estates which are already subscribers to the Coast Agency endeavouring to assist non-subscribing estates, the following procedure be adopted:—

First, the Superintendent to be written to,

Second, the Agents or proprietor,

Third, the Estate Agents' Association, and failing satisfaction, the offending Estates' subscription shall be refused in future."

NOTICE.

Tuticorin Forwarding Agency.

The opening of the new Indo-Ceylon Railway connection via Polgahawella and Dhanushkodi having diverted the greater part of the coolie traffic from the Colombo-Tuticorin route, notice is hereby given to Estates concerned that the Tuticorin Forwarding Agency will be closed on July 8th to be re-opened at Dhanushkodi so soon as pending arrangements are completed of which due notice will be given.

This notice does not include the Colombo Establishment which will be kept open.

NOTICE.

Guntur Agency.

On page 408 of the July 1914 issue of the *Planting Gazette*, line eleven, Guntakal should read Guntur.

It has since been decided to retain this Agency until the end of 1914.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon

NOTICE.

The heavy reduction in coolies passing through the Ammapatam Agency during the last six months indicates that advantage is being taken of the new railway route and

it has therefore been necessary to open an Agency at Arantangi, the terminus of the South Indian Railway in the Tanjore District. The Agency at Ammapatam has been closed from September 1st. Superintendents are kindly requested not to issue A. Forms on Ammapatam Agency in future, but to refer kanganies to Arantangi.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.

The wisdom of closing down Ammapatam Agency is amply demonstrated by the fact that even a month before closure no less than 179 coolies passed through the new Agency of Arantangi as against 23 shipped from Ammapatam. The total from Ammapatam, it will be noted, for the year to date is only 217. I am also of opinion that the Agency of Tondi should be similarly closed, as figures on appended schedule seem to indicate that even in this District preference is being given to the new route rather than to the direct sea voyage from Tondi to Colombo. In the event of closing Tondi Agency, it would eventually be re-opened at Ramnad, which is 63 miles from Madura and 22 from Mandapam. The opening of an Agency at Ramnad will not only cater for coolies coming from Tondi and other neighbouring Districts, but will relieve the strain on Mandapam which is not favourably situated for advertising and supervision of recruiting.

RECRUITING FIGURES.

The recruiting figures for the month of August show a very serious decline as compared with last year—no less than, 2,336. A glance at the schedule will find that the drop has been fairly well distributed except in one or two instances where a slight increase occurs.

Recruiting in the Telugu Circle is most disappointing. Very few estates appear to be operating upon these Agencies.

In the Arcot Circle all Agencies show a substantial decrease, Chingleput being the most serious owing to a severe outbreak of cholera.

Of the Salem Circle, Nanjangud and Namakal alone show a slight increase.

HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE.—Although the figures from Cannanore for the year are ahead of 1913, results for August are disappointing. Palghat shows a fair increase, likewise Erode and Karur. The Head Agency at Trichinopoly shows a decrease of over 1,200. Manaparai, on the other hand, has increased owing to the fact that it has now been re-opened for the payment of A. Forms, but it must be noted that coolies from the vicinity that were formerly registered at Trichinopoly now pass through Manaparai. Tanjore shows a small increase, on the other hand Pudukottah is on the decline.

MADURA CIRCLE.—The Agency of Madura still continues to show an increase on last year and the total number of coolies that have passed through this Agency to date this year is much in excess of 1912 and 1913. Tinnevely and Tataparai show a decrease, but the latter is counter-balanced by Mandapam.

This general falling off in recruiting can be attributed to various causes, but principally to the European war, affecting recruiting in common with everything else. During August many estates cancelled their A. Forms and stopped all expenditure on recruiting. I am glad to say that in many cases these instructions have been cancelled and matters are assuming their normal course. There is no doubt that if Ceylon is able during this period of commercial depression and uncertainty to maintain the flow of labour from South India, the Colony will derive some benefit from the distress that is even now prevalent amongst the poorer population of South India, which has been brought about by the closing down of works and depression in agriculture caused by the cessation of export.

On the West Coast during August the export of Copra came practically to a standstill, and, as a result, I am informed that thousands of coolies working in the back waters of Malabar are out of employment. In other Districts where the various German Missions have afforded employment to large numbers of the poorer classes, the works have been or are about to be closed down for want of funds and other reasons. Recruiting for the Straits owing to want of shipping facilities is also seriously retarded. The fact that there is no interruption in Ceylon recruiting will soon filter through to the recruiting Districts, and I see no reason why estates wishing to do so should not be able to fill up the gaps in their labour forces.

Rain has been fairly general of late, but notably in the Recruiting Districts of Cuddapah, Coimbatore, Salem, Trichinopoly, Pudukottah, Madura and Tinnevely, it is very much below the average and crops will be poor in consequence.

GOVERNMENT STATISTICS.

The total number of coolies shipped from all South Indian ports as shown by the Government returns up to 31st August, 1914, is 62,809 as against 90,013 to the same date in 1913.

FINANCIAL.

I should be very much obliged if Superintendents would see that their estate accounts are kept in funds by promptly replying to applications from this office, in order that the despatch of labour may not be unnecessarily delayed and additional expense caused to estates concerned and dissatisfaction to labour which does not stimulate recruiting. Although I am not permitted to allow overdrafts owing to the nature of the recruiting system, estates must of necessity occasionally automatically overdraw their accounts, as it is impossible to foresee the number of coolies recruited from day to day at the various out-Agencies and it will

therefore be appreciated that these automatic overdrafts are unavoidable. This concession, however, necessitates a total overdraft of very appreciable proportions and it is therefore imperative that funds should be placed to credit immediately notice either by Postcard or Pass Book be received by the Superintendent.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MALAYALAM RECRUITING.

Reports have come in that a great deal of distress is prevailing in those parts of Malabar that depend on the cocoanut industries for livelihood. This is so marked that the Government have started relief works at Chowghat where the Collector of Malabar has taken up temporary headquarters to deal with the 15,000 people said to be out of work. Estates who are in the habit of employing Malayalams would now no doubt be able to substantially augment their forces if in a position to do so, for short periods, say six months' service.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

CAMPING REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF SALEM CIRCLE FOR AUGUST, 1914.

The above tour which occupied altogether ten days, was carried out in Dharmapuri taluk, Salem District. After leaving Headquarters on the 6th instant, two days were occupied in inspecting the Dharmapuri Agency. As I had covered most of the roads in this taluk on a previous occasion last year, I confined myself to visiting as many of the villages that I could which showed an interest and keenness to emigrate to Ceylon, in order to ascertain if the villagers were still so inclined and whether the good recruiting prospects were as brilliant as reported. As far as I can gather, generally speaking, the crops are not particularly good in most parts of the taluk, and the surrounding country looks extremely dry and badly in need of rain. This aspect was borne out by most of the villagers in the places I visited, and I think that it is extremely probable that a large number of coolies will be recruited from this taluk, if one or two Europeans can do the recruiting themselves, assuring the villagers that they will be landed in Ceylon free of debt and have nothing to do with kangannies. This latter individual has, I fear, left a somewhat bad impression behind him in this taluk also and though the villagers are anxious to go to Ceylon in a great many villages, on account of the poorness of the crops, they have no desire to work under kangannies, of whom they have a very bad opinion. I feel positively certain that if a few families can be recruited from the different parts of this taluk and one or two from each gang sent back to their village within

a month or two of going to Ceylon, to spread the report that the treatment is exactly as advertised and that they are not obliged to work on a kangany's account, hundreds will be ready to return with them or volunteer to go of their own accord for this reason alone. It is one of the chief complaints of the people of these parts that they never hear of their relations again when they go to Ceylon, whereas several people who have gone to Penang, have already returned with money and induced a good many others to go. There are not very many kanganies working in this taluk at present, which I think is a good thing, if a new system of Europeans recruiting themselves is to be started, as villagers invariably require a little time to think over the question of leaving their villages in the first instance. If a few Europeans had been to some likely villages and explained that they would not be under kanganies at all and in fact would be recruited on different lines to those generally carried on by the kangany, the latter might possibly seriously hamper the work of the European by filling them up with some other stories in the meantime.

At two villages I visited on the 9th instant, Indoor and Indoor Agraharam, the wages are very low and the crops generally bad. The people here were quite indifferent to emigration until they were told of the possibility of being recruited direct by a European, sent back again in a few months and their kanacks kept by a European and not by a kangany. A very large number of people have gone from here to Penang, but there are many who are willing to go to Ceylon from this and the surrounding villages if once they can be started, and can realise for themselves that what they are actually told by the European is the absolute truth. Another village I visited on this date called Belianur Agraharam, could, I feel sure, send a very large number of coolies to Ceylon if a few could be got to go as said above. One can easily see when the population of a village is seriously anxious to go and to hear all about Ceylon, and this is what has struck me particularly with regard to this taluk. In more than one instance it is the villagers themselves who have said to me that if one or two would go and come back again in a month or so and tell the others that all that was said was the truth and that they would not be interfered with by a kangany or run into a large debt under him, hundreds would go, and I feel with regard to these parts, where I say they appear to look at the matter seriously as they are required to do, they mean what they say.

At Pennageram also, a large village of about 6,000 people, they seemed very anxious to go since they have had no proper harvest for several years and practically no rain for this year. Much the same state of affairs exists in most of the other villages in this taluk, viz., scarcity of rain and extremely poor harvest. Another small village I stopped at on the 10th instant called Odasalpatty, had had a little rain and the crops were perhaps just a little better than in other places, but not very much at that. Father on I stopped at another village called Naval, some of the people here obtain employment by working on the Railway and the roads. This is another village where they listened with keen in-

terest to the possibility of being recruited in a straightforward manner by a European and gave me their assurance that if a few went and came back again very soon to tell them all about Ceylon almost the whole village would go. One of the chief troubles is the timidity of the villager to take the first step, each of course expecting the other to do so. Once this could be got over, there would be no further fear of going to Ceylon and the fact that it is so close to their village and there is now no sea journey from Tuticorin to Colombo would make them feel that Ceylon is part of this Presidency and simply another home. I ended up my tour for this day at a very small village called Thippampatty where I saw the village Munsiff and a few of the inhabitants. They are in the same poor circumstances here and would probably be very glad to go to Ceylon if they knew a little more about it.

On the 11th instant I moved my camp from Dharmapuri to Paikode as a better centre for some of the Northern villages in the taluk. On the 12th instant I visited Doddad-hanahally on my way to Kariamangalam. This place is of little importance for recruiting purposes as most of the inhabitants are high caste people. Kariamangalam however is a very large village, where I think it would be possible to get some coolies, once the people learnt from those returning that the kangany was no longer being allowed to keep their accounts. I then went on to a place called Marenda-halli where the village Munsiff was extremely nice and a very large crowd gathered round and received notices. I would advise any European recruiting in this taluk to try this village, as I think he would very probably be able to establish a connection with the villagers.

On the 13th, Papparapatty and Padi were both visited. The former is a large village from which about forty have gone to Penang and Ceylon, the latter is a much smaller village with about sixty inhabitants who appeared very indifferent at first but finally developed remarkable keenness to know how they could be recruited in another manner than by kanganies. One man here who had been to Ceylon some years ago has spread some very bad reports about kanganies and the people will not therefore hear of going where they will be under him. Several however said at once that they were quite ready to go if recruited properly as I have said above.

On the 14th I paid another visit to Pennageram in order to try and trace two kanganies whom I was unable to get any information about on the previous occasion. From here I went on as far as the Cauvery, distributing notices on the way. Part of this road lies through dense jungle and one has to drop down a steep ghaut for about three miles to get to the river. Large festivals are held at a big temple on the Bank near a village called Hogainakkal. On my way back I again stopped at Papparapatty where I spoke to the village Munsiff regarding a defaulting case.

On the 15th I returned to Salem via Dharmapuri making a final inspection of the Agency and finishing my tour with a total mileage of 316 miles by road. If the people can only be started from this taluk being recruited fairly and a few sent back to publish the treatment in Ceylon, as I have ex-

plained above, I feel absolutely certain that complete harmony between the villagers and the estates in Ceylon will be established and a tremendous number of coolies would go from this taluk, as I think they seriously intend going if they can once get over this preliminary timidity which can easily be wiped out by a few bolder ones taking the required step.

PROSPECTS OF RECRUITING.

DHARMAPURI AGENCY.—These look good if recruiting on a proper basis is started. The kanganyas about here have not carried out the conditions reported in printed Notices and have earned a bad name. People are anxious to go, I believe, and can be induced to do so if they hear from their relatives or if they return again soon and are in the first place assured by the Europeans themselves that they will be sent on their account and not on the kanganyas'.

SALEM AGENCY.—There has been a considerable amount of rain lately in the vicinity and in various parts of the District and crops are looking fairly good. The price of rice has been increased from 3 to 3½ seers per rupee and other grains affected by the present stagnation in shipping have also increased in proportion. Local wages, as regards the working cooly, do not appear to have been affected and it is probable that these will decrease sooner or later under the present circumstances.

VILLUPURAM AGENCY.—There appears to have been a fair amount of rain lately in the vicinity and vegetation appears to be good. Prospects of recruiting at present are not considered very bright on this account.

E. V. B. LEVINGE.

Assistant Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 1914

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles.						Agents Reports.
Madura ... (Dindigul Agency)	Dindigul	... Cholan good				Crop Prospects are good. If no rain during this month, people will suffer very much for their livelihood.
	Palani	... Cumbu and ragi good	5	2½	Fair	
	Nelakottai	... do	5	2½	do	
	Periakulam	... Paddy moderate, cumbu, cholan and ragi, good (but want of rain)	4	2	do	
Coimbatore ...	Udamalpet	... Cholan good.				
	Pollachi	... do (no rain)	5	2½	do	
Madura ... (Madura Agency)	Madura	... Paddy sowing fair, ragi crops indifferent	6	3	do	Rain in the district insufficient. Poor paddy harvest throughout under irrigation. Tilling fields for paddy sowing in hand. Ragi crops fair to indifferent in parts under wells. Dearness prevails for staple food.
	Maloor	... Paddy sowing fair, ragi crops fair	5	3	do	
	Periakulam	... do	4	3	Indifferent	
	Nelakottai	... Paddy sowing and ragi crops indifferent	4	3	do	
Ramanad ...	Tirumangalam	... do	5	3	Good	Labour sufficient in parts. Cooly prospect poor owing to War agitation throughout the district and also fresh cultivation in parts after recent rains.
	Ramanad	... do	4	2½	Fair	
	Tirupuvanam	... do	4	2	Good	
	Tirupatur	... do	5	3	Fair	
	Sivaganga	... do	5	3	do	
Trichinopoly ... (Karur Agency)	Manu Madura	... do	4	3	Indifferent	
	Karur	... Paddy, ragi, groundnuts, cumbu, cholan and tennarie, good	4	2½	Small number in the last month in recruiting is due to engagement of coolies in the field.	For want of rain people live upon wages in building and road work. In some parts they got wages by harvesting both from dry and wet lands, the crops grown up from the supply of well water and as well as rain water.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles.						
Coimbatore	... Dharapuram	... Paddy, ragi, groundnuts, cumbu, cholam and tennarie, good	4	2½	do	
Coimbatore ... (Erode Agency)	{ Erode ... Palladam ... Bahavani ... Gobichettypala-yam ... Avanashi ... P. Dharapuram ... Satiamangalam ... Udamalpet ... Pollachi ... Kollegal ... }	{ Owing to recent rain-fall sowing in dry lands are in progress	5 to 6	3 to 4	Unsatisfactory	High prices prevailing for food stuffs.
Malabar	{ Cherakal ... Kottayam ... Kurambranad ... Calicut ... Ernad ... Walawanad ... Ponani ... Palghat ... Wynaad ... }	{ Fair	5 to 6	2½ to 3	Good	Prices of food stuffs are becoming high daily here, hence recruiting prospects are good. People are willing to go abroad for work.
Malabar (Palghat Agency)	... Palghat	... Fields are grown with crops and it is time for the harvest	3 to 5	2½ to 3	Coolies can be got only after the Onam feast which is very important to Malabar coolies	No other work to coolies except cultivation.
Trichinopoly (Manaparai Agency)	{ Trichinopoly ... Kulitalai ... }	{ Ragi, cholam, cumbu and varagoo, fair. Groundnuts,	6	4	Moderate.	One-fourth part of these taluks are cultivated owing to the recent rain. In other parts there is no rain. The labouring classes are suffering owing to the want of rain. If the coolies are well paid in the estates, they are very willing to proceed to Ceylon, provided they are recruited by reliable kanganies.
Puducottah	{ Kiranur ... Tirumayan ... Kolatur ... Dindigul ... }	{ ... gingiliseeds, horse-gram and dholi-gram, Cholam, ragi, varagoo and	5½	3	do	
Madura	{ Melur ... }	{ paddy do.	6 5	4 3	do do	
Ramanad (Tondi Agency)	{ Tiruvadani ... Tirupatur ... Sivaganga ... Paramakudi ... }	{ Good	6 to 8	4 to 5	Coolies will not go to the Estates Tondi at present.	
					for one month Special rates for coolies :— owing to ensuing Men ... 10½ annas. pearl fishery at Women ... 6 " Tondi Children ... 3 " for pearl fishery work.	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles.						
Ramnad ... (Mandapam Agency.)		Crop prospects are fair in this district. Wet and dry lands				
	Satur	... are kept with-				
	Sirivilliputhur	... out being	Mofussil			Recruiting prospects not favourable owing to war in Europe and as the many estates Superintendents stopped recruiting.
	Ramnad	... ploughed as	4	3		
	Kamudi	... there is no	Town			
	Rasimangalam	... rain till now.	6	4		
	Mudukolatur	... Even if there				
	Sivaganga	... is rain in the next month the harvest will be late.				
Tanjore ... (Tanjore and Arantangi Agencies)		Water supply sufficient except in parts. Flow over the Grand Anicut 3.9 feet. Raising of seed-				Employment available. Grain stocks sufficient. Prospects generally fair.
	Kumbakonam	... lings, trans-				
	Mannargudi	... planting of				
	Mayaveram	... paddy and				
	Nannilam	... sowing of				
	Negapatam	... cumbu, ragi,				
	Papanasam	... groundnuts,	6	4	Not Fair	
	Pattukottai	... dhol, maize,				
	Shiyali	... paddy; gingili				
	Tanjore	... and varagoo				
	Arantangi	... proceeding,				
	Tiruthuraiipoondi	... standing crops fair. Pasture generally sufficient. Fodder available. Condition of cattle generally good. Anthrax in two taluks.				
Puducottah ... (Puducottah Agency)		Ragi cultivation is fading for want of rain. The cultivation process is at a standstill.	4	2	Very poor	In spite of slackness of good season the recruiting prospects have proved very unsatisfactory owing to a false rumour spread among the illiterate to the effect that the coolies are not despatched to Ceylon on account of war in Europe.
	Kolatur	... rain. The				
	Tirumayam	... do	5	3	do	
		Ragi cultivation is fair in parts though not in a satisfactory condition throughout. Want of rain had retarded paddy cultivation.				
	Alangudi	... out. Want of rain had retarded paddy cultivation.	3½	2	Not satisfactory	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 1914.

District.	Talug.	Crop. Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarters & Madura Circles.						
Tinnevelly ... (Tinnevelly Agency.)	Tenkasi ...	Good	5	3	Dull and not fair.	The dullness is due to widespread false rumours that there is no safety in Ceylon owing to the present war. Further the poor illiterate agricultural coolies are under the wrong impression that the cancellation of the steamer service between Tuticorin and Colombo for the present is also due in some way to troubles in Ceylon. All this has troubled them a great deal. Many kanganyes came here to ascertain the truth.
	Ambasamudram ...	do	5	4		
	Tinnevelly ...	Fair	5	3		
	Nanguneri ...	Not good	4	2½		
	Srivaikundam ...	Not bad	5	3		
	Tiruchendur ...	do	5	3½		
	Koilpatti ...	Fair	6	1½		
Tiruvandram ...	Sankaranainar- koil ...	Rather fair	6	4		
	Quilon ...	Fair	In towns	8	6	
	Trivandrum ...		In villages	6	4	
Tinnevelly ... (Tataparai Agency)	Dry lands.— They are pre- paring the ground in the expectation of rain, but no rain here ex- cept a little		4 to 5	2½ to 3		In the existing state of things a large labour force ought to be expected as the labourers here find little work, have to pay much for the daily food stuffs, etc, but as the report has become current in villages that steamer service to Colombo is stopped and no coolies are required for estates on account of war. The greater number of coolies that are returning now from Colombo say that it is very hard to get work there. All these factors are discourag- ing the labour classes to a certain extent and neither estate labourers nor Colombo town coolies are going in as great numbers as before. The Government Emigration De- pot has tom-tommed in parts of the district that steamer service is renewed and that people can go <i>via</i> Tuticorin.
	Koilpatti ...	here and there.	In Mofus.	In Mofus.		
	Sankaranainar- koil ...	Wet lands.— The valleys of	sil.	sil.		
	Srivaikundam ...	the river Tami-	4 to 6	3 to 4		
	Tiruchandur ...	raparani in	In towns.	In towns.		
	Sriyaikundam and Tiruchan- dur are rich with rice crops on account of heavy rains in Western Ghauts.		as if la- bour is available.			
Arcot & Telugu Circles.						
Chittoor ...	Chittoor ...	Moderate	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	This District had a little rain lately and the crops are therefore brightening up. Most of the labour available is reported to be engaged in cultivation at present and are not therefore willing to emigrate. It is also stated that the class of kangany working in these parts is not very intelligent.
	Kalastry ...	do	do	do	do	
	Karvetnagar ...	do	do	do	do	
	Plamanair ...	do	do	do	do	
	Vayalpad ...	do	do	do	do	
	Madanapalli ...	do	do	do	do	
	Punganur ...	do	do	do	do	
	Chendragiri ...	do	do	do	do	
North Arcot...	Arcot ...	Good	4	2	do	A large number of people are at present engaged in cultivation of different kinds. The poorer classes, however, are leaving their villages and seeking employment in other parts, some being employed in D. P. W. at a salary of 6 annas for males and 3 annas for females. Recruiting Prospects are undoubtedly good for Ceylon at present, as Penang recruiting is reported to have stopped.
	Gudiyatam ...	do	do	do	Good	
	Walaja ...	do	do	do	do	
	Vellore ...	do	do	do	do	
	Polur ...	do	do	do	Fair	
	Arni ...	do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Wandiwash ...	do	do	do	Fair	
	Tiruvanamalai...	do	do	do	Good	
Chittoor ...	Arkonam ...	do	4 to 5	2½ to 3½	do	
	Cheyar ...	do	do	do	Fair	
	Putthur and Karvetnagar }	Fair	4 to 5	2½ to 3½	Good	

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Agents' Reports.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Arcot & Telugu Circles.						
Chingleput ...	Ponnerly ...	Fair	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good	
	Tiruvallur ...	do	do	do	do	
	Chingleput ...	Paddy	5	4	do	
	Conjeeveram ...	do	do	do	do	
	Madurantakam ...	Kumbu	do	do	do	
	Saidapet ...	Ragi and kumbu	6	do	do	
South Arcot...	Villupuram ...	Ragi and kumbu harvesting.	5	4	Bad	
	Kallakurchi ...	Ragi, paddy and sugarcane harvesting.	do	do	do	
	Chidambaram ...	Paddy	4	3	do	
	Virudachelam ...	Cholam	do	do	do	
	Tindivanam ...	Ragi	do	do	do	
	Cuddalore ...	Kar paddy and ground-nuts.	5	4	do	
Cuddapah ...	Cuddapah ...	Cultivation going on	6	3	Indifferent	
	Jammalamadugu ...	do	8	4	Good	
	Prodatur ...	do	do	do	Bad	
	Badvel ...	Kumbu growing	3	2	Good	
	Sidhout ...	do	do	do	do	
	Pullanpet ...	Kumbu and rice growing	4	do	do	
	Royachoti ...	Kumbu growing	3	do	do	
	Pulivendla ...	Cultivation going on	8	3	Bad	
	Kamalapuram ...	do	4	2	Good	
Guntur ...	Guntur ...	Kumbu, cholam, redgram, chillies and cotton.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Indifferent	
	Vinukonda ...	do	do	do	Good	
	Narasarowpet ...	do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Satnapalli ...	do	do	do	do	
	Bapatla ...	Paddy.	do	do	Bad	
	Tenali ...	do	do	do	do	
Anantapur ...	Anantapur ...	Cholam and ragi excellent.	5	3	Moderate	
	Dharmavaram ...	Kumbu and cholam good	4	2	Bad	
	Kadiri ...	do	do	4	do	
	Gooty ...	do	do	1½	Moderate	
	Tadpatri ...	do	do	2½	do	
	Kaliyandrug ...	Cholam excellent.	4½	do	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop. Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Arcot & Telugu Circles.						
Bellary	Bellary	... Paddy and ragi good.	5	do	do	
	Royadrug	... do	do	do	do	
	Hospet	... Paddy excellent.	do	do	do	
	Adony	... do	4½	do	do	
	Uruvakonda	... Kumbu and cholam good	4	2	Bad	
Kurnool	Kurnool	... Paddy good.	5	2½	Moderate	
	Nandiyal	... Cotton good.	4½	do	do	
	Dhone	... do	5½	do	do	
Salem Circle.						
Salem	Salem Town	... Fair	4 to 5	2½ to 3	Moderate	The coolies are at present engaged in P. W. D. Works.
	Salem Taluk	... Good	3½ to 4	2 to 2½	do	Coolies are at present engaged in the fields.
	Omalur	... Fair	3½	2	do	There has been heavy rain everywhere consequently coolies are engaged in the fields.
	Trichengode	... Moderate	4	2½	do	Most of the labour is engaged in cultivation.
	Uttengerai	... Moderate	4	2½	do	Most of the labour is engaged in cultivation.
	Hosur and Krishnagiri	... Moderate	do	do	do	Most of the labour is engaged in cultivation.
	Attur	... Fair	4	3	do	There has been a great deal of rain continuously all over the district of late, so that all the labourers are engaged in cultivation. The kangaries who are over here are also concerning themselves more about their lands than recruiting coolies. As soon as the agricultural work is stopped, prospects for Ceylon should be fairly good as emigration to other places has been suspended.
	Dharmapuri	... Moderate	5	3	Fair	There are plenty of coolies willing to go from this taluk if recruited properly as I have mentioned in detail in my previous reports.
Trichy	Namakkal	... Poor	2 to 3	1 to 1½	Moderate	Scarcity of rain, dearness of food grains, and insufficient wages for the poorer classes is reported. A lot of people are at present afraid to emigrate to other places owing to the war. Recruiting will, therefore, probably be rather slack in spite of the poor circumstances mentioned above.
Trichy	Musiri and Kulitalai Perambalur...	Poor	6 to 8 in towns. 4 to 5 in villages. 1½ to 2 for Children.	2 to 3 2		Recruiting prospects seem to be fair. A few coolies may be expected to emigrate in September, but the recruiting season becomes slacker after this in these parts. News appears to have been spread in the Bazaars of these parts that food stuffs in Ceylon have risen very high lately on account of the war. A slight scare prevails owing to rumours regarding the present circumstances everywhere so that coolies will require very considerable encouragement to emigrate from their homes, just at present. A little rain has fallen in parts of Musiri and Perambalur.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
6th September, 1914.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 1914.

District	Taluk.	Crop. Prospects.	Local Wages		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
North Arcot...	Tirupathur ...	Moderate	4	2	Fair	There has not been very much rain in these parts with the result that crops are not very good, and grains will probably be dearer. Insufficient labour for the coolies available is also reported
			2 & 1½ for Children.			
North Arcot...	{ (Kangundi ... Zemindary)... Kuppam ... }	Moderate	5	3 to 3½	Moderate	There will not be very much labour available for the next month or two, as all the coolies are at present working in the fields.
Mysore	Mysore ...	Paddy and cholan good	4½	2	Moderate	A large number of coolies are reported to have returned from the Nilgiri Hills on account of the heavy rain in many parts. There is some prospect of getting a few coolies in several of the above Taluks.
	Nanjangud ...	do	4	2	do	
	Chamarajnagar ...	Cholan good	4	2	do	
	Yellandur ...	ragi and cholan good	4	2	do	
	Gundlupet ...	Bad	3½	2	Fair	
	T. Narasipur ...	Paddy and ragi good	4	2	Moderate	
	Mandiya ...	Bad	2½	1	Bad	
	Chennapatna ...	Paddy good	3½	2½	do	
	Nagamangalam	Bad	2½	2	do	

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
12th September, 1914

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched Monthly from each Agency during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	July	Total	Aug.	Total
Telugu Circle.																
Guntakal	... 1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	32	91	27	118	45	163
"	... 1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452	75	527	58	585
"	... 1914	22	29	51	22	73	35	108	43	151	26	177	39	216	36	252
Cuddapah	... 1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95	37	132	18	150
"	... 1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	244	132	376	18	394
"	... 1914	12	33	45	...	45	20	65	13	78	12	90	27	117	12	129
Guntur	... 1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269	27	296	33	329	8	337
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	138	3	141	14	155
"	... 1914	2	2	4	6	10	7	17	10	27	31	58	28	86	6	92
Nellore	... 1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58	9	67	...	67
"	... 1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126	13	139	2	141
"	... 1914	7	...	7	7	14	4	18	4	22	3	25	closed	25	closed	25
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	51	27	78	32	110
"	... 1914	...	...	...	16	16	10	26	Transporting	Transporting	Transporting	Transporting	Transporting	Transporting	Transporting	Transporting
									Agency. 26	Agency. 26	Agency. 26	Agency. 26	Agency. 26	Agency. 26	Agency. 26	Agency. 26
Madras (Forwarding Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arcot Circle.																
Katpadi	... 1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1082	415	1497	577	2074	499	2573
"	... 1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1263	342	1605	320	1925	387	2312
"	... 1914	102	140	242	171	413	199	612	295	907	352	1259	415	1674	366	2040
Arkonam	... 1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1014	287	1301	311	1612
"	... 1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1023	368	1391	258	1649
"	... 1914	114	69	183	61	244	144	388	230	618	194	812	240	1052	278	1330

Agencies. Years. Jan. Feb. Total. March. Total. April. Total. May. Total. June. Total. July. Total. Aug. Total.

Arcot Circle.

Chingleput	...	1912	120	105	225	136	361	505	666	287	953	562	1515	505	2020	437	2457
"	...	1913	99	132	231	223	454	421	878	440	1318	492	1810	556	2366	422	2788
"	...	1914	55	78	133	107	240	154	394	258	652	247	899	283	1182	208	1390
Villupuram	...	1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1277	501	1778	618	2396	629	3025
"	...	1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1059	682	1741	654	2395	582	2977	544	3521
"	...	1914	118	140	258	167	425	312	737	404	1141	562	1703	486	2189	390	2579

Salem Circle.

Nanjangud	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19	88	18	106	31	137
"	...	1914	19	6	25	15	40	17	57	15	72	60	132	71	203	58	261
Dharmapuri	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	35	35	36	71	36	101	11	115	13	128	59	187	30	217
"	...	1914	9	25	34	9	43	25	68	45	113	9	122	46	168	29	197
Kuppam	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	5	16	21	2	23	9	32	16	48	9	57	28	85	15	100
Tirupathur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85	14	99	12	111	27	138
"	...	1914	6	6	12	...	12	...	12	4	16	6	22	11	33	10	43
Salem	...	1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	826	1103	313	1416	346	1762	456	2218
"	...	1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840	168	1008	166	1174	185	1359
"	...	1914	42	71	113	122	235	168	403	222	625	141	766	131	897	150	1047
Jolarpet (For- warding Agency.)	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Attur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182	67	249	39	288	66	354
"	...	1914	21	21	42	42	84	23	107	85	192	34	226	62	288	17	305
Namakal	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	18	15	33	58	91	55	146	83	229	87	316	69	385	78	463
"	...	1914	23	41	64	55	119	167	286	110	396	133	529	100	629	89	718
Turaiyur	...	1912	5	32	37	6	43	28	71	137	208	215	423	104	527	41	568
"	...	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	319	233	552	139	691	83	774
"	...	1914	16	5	21	51	72	31	103	158	261	144	405	100	505	33	538
Masiri	...	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	228	109	337	87	424	52	476
"	...	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	366	206	572	77	749	122	871
"	...	1914	13	2	15	19	34	73	107	222	329	258	587	159	746	55	801

Headquarter Circle.

Cannanore	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	26	10	36	56	92	19	111	73	184
"	...	1914	35	18	53	27	80	59	139	87	176	35	211	41	252	25	277
Palghat	...	1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	82	302	167	469	178	647	173	820
"	...	1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	105	391	91	482	140	622	134	756
"	...	1914	38	89	127	65	192	83	275	141	416	179	595	137	732	157	889
Erode	...	1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	302	939	174	1113	202	1315	173	1488
"	...	1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	216	1021	274	1295	179	1474	180	1654
"	...	1914	50	106	156	121	277	162	439	164	603	293	896	192	1088	220	1308
Karur	...	1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	96	410	118	528	119	647	198	845
"	...	1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	184	527	87	614	103	717	92	809
"	...	1914	30	83	113	73	186	106	292	132	424	191	615	159	774	128	902
Trichinopoly	...	1912	740	1036	1776	1556	3332	3276	6608	6057	12665	6088	18758	429	23282	3760	27042
"	...	1913	994	1201	2195	1453	2648	4081	7729	7639	15368	7193	22561	4723	27284	8772	31056
"	...	1914	740	796	1536	1371	2907	2747	5654	4668	10322	5258	15580	4673	20253	2549	22802
Manaparai	...	1912	111	103	214	135	349	129	478	344	922	297	1119	319	1438	331	1769
"	...	1913	224	141	365	171	536	108	844	425	1269	446	1715	438	2153	368	2521
"	...	1914	28	25	53	69	122	79	201	202	403	170	573	124	697	201	898
Dindigul	...	1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	289	835	295	1130	357	1487	373	1860
"	...	1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	403	1166	357	1523	328	1851	274	2125
"	...	1914	140	125	265	149	414	165	579	268	847	234	1081	251	1332	197	1529

Agencies. Years. Jan. Feb. Total. March. Total. April. Total. May. Total. June. Total. July. Total. Aug. Total.

Headquarter Circle.

Tanjore	...	1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879	328	1202	259	1461	175	1636
"	...	1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943	447	1390	318	1708	166	1874
"	...	1914	111	175	286	252	538	316	854	351	1205	491	1696	404	2100	197	2297
Ammapatam	...	1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383	240	623	228	851	138	989
"	...	1913	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	179	444	174	618	109	727	183	910
"	...	1914	35	20	55	29	84	17	101	12	113	22	135	59	194	23	217
Puducottah	...	1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	14	698	348	1046	272	1318	339	1657
"	...	1913	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768	437	1205	277	1482	247	1729
"	...	1914	44	96	140	122	262	230	492	257	749	343	1092	185	1277	191	1468
Arantangi	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8

Madura Circle:—

Madura	...	1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1178	603	1781	563	2344	537	2881	639	3520
"	...	1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1739	766	2505	616	3121	609	3730
"	...	1914	293	246	539	438	977	557	1534	851	2385	1045	3430	876	4306	610	4916
Pamban	...	1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201	93	294	132	426	100	526
"	...	1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224	68	292	75	367	67	434
"	...	1914	48	10	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
Mandapam	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	...	...	128	128	382	510	762	1272	758	2030	829	2859	421	3280
Tinnevely	...	1912	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773	291	1064	340	1404	260	1664
"	...	1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958	399	1357	400	1757	251	2008
"	...	1914	133	108	241	113	354	112	466	186	652	291	943	260	1203	158	1361
Tatapara	...	1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1024	522	1546	607	2153	573	2726	511	3237
"	...	1913	267	352	619	433	1052	761	1813	741	2554	801	3355	678	4033	620	4653
"	...	1914	122	161	283	157	440	180	620	302	922	214	1136	352	1488	192	1680
Tuticorin (Forwarding Agency)	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	...	1912	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1070	360	1430	423	1853	204	2057
"	...	1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	1409	402	1811	150	1961
"	...	1914	111	56	167	44	211	30	241	77	318	59	377	63	440	25	465

Closed Agencies:—

Coconada	...	1912	..	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69	49	118	38	156	15	171
"	...	1913	6	15	21	37	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	...	1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	...	1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182	64	246	53	299
"	...	1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	...	118	50	168	24	192
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	...	1912	...	27	27	12	89	81	70	44	114	10	124	39	163	16	179
"	...	1913	19	25	44	2	46	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	6	5	11	10	21	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Grand total	...	1912	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710	7365	18075	11717	29792	12546	42338	11231	53577	9951	6553
	...	1913	3491	3911	7402	4837	12239	9328	21567	14882	36449	15063	51512	11610	63122	9561	7268
	...	1914	2544	2798	5342	4130	9372	6623	15995	10544	26539	11804	38343	10839	49182	7225	5640

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1914.

AGENCIES.					PREVIOUSLY.					AUGUST.					TOTAL.					G. TOTAL.																																																																																							
HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE:—																																																																																																											
	M.	W.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Infts.																																																																																													
1. Cannanore	232	15	2	3	252	23	2	0	0	25	255	17	2	3	277																																																																																												
2. Palghat	663	38	21	10	732	133	13	8	3	157	796	51	29	13	889																																																																																												
3. Erode	746	185	101	56	1,088	147	42	25	6	220	893	227	126	62	1,308																																																																																												
4. Karur	546	123	67	38	774	99	14	13	2	128	645	137	80	40	902																																																																																												
5. Trichinopoly	11,813	3,970	3,040	1,430	20,253	1,497	499	412	141	2,549	13,310	4,469	3,452	1,571	22,802																																																																																												
6. Manaparai	419	149	90	39	697	134	33	26	8	201	553	182	116	47	898																																																																																												
7. Dindigul	889	263	108	72	1,332	151	31	10	5	197	1,040	294	118	77	1,529																																																																																												
8. Tanjore	1,419	396	144	141	2,100	135	33	13	16	197	1,554	429	157	157	2,297																																																																																												
9. Ammapatnam	124	41	21	8	194	16	6	1	0	23	140	47	22	8	217																																																																																												
10. Arantangi	3	2	0	3	8	100	27	39	13	179	103	29	39	16	187																																																																																												
11. Paducottah	763	207	211	96	1,277	106	37	29	19	191	869	244	240	115	1,468																																																																																												
MADURA CIRCLE:—																																																																																																											
12. Madura	2,463	876	636	331	4,306	343	133	83	51	610	2,806	1,009	719	382	4,916																																																																																												
13. Pamban	37	14	6	1	58	Closed.					37	14	6	1	58																																																																																												
14. Mandapam	1,499	640	494	226	2,859	206	115	62	38	421	1,705	755	556	264	3,280																																																																																												
15. Tinnevely	808	175	156	84	1,203	115	19	20	4	158	923	194	176	68	1,361																																																																																												
16. Tataparai	914	325	142	107	1,488	116	42	19	15	192	1,030	367	161	122	1,680																																																																																												
17. Tondi	274	89	45	31	440	13	8	3	1	25	287	97	49	32	465																																																																																												
SALEM CIRCLE:—																																																																																																											
18. Nanjangud	136	46	14	7	203	36	11	11	0	58	172	57	25	7	261																																																																																												
19. Dharmapuri	110	33	12	13	168	17	6	4	2	29	127	39	16	15	197																																																																																												
20. Kuppam	63	9	8	5	85	11	3	1	0	15	74	12	9	5	100																																																																																												
21. Tirupatur	21	10	0	2	33	6	4	0	0	10	27	14	0	2	43																																																																																												
22. Salem	559	174	89	75	897	105	25	16	4	150	664	199	105	79	1,047																																																																																												
23. Aiur	170	59	30	29	288	13	2	2	0	17	183	61	32	29	305																																																																																												
24. Namakal	354	122	92	61	629	52	20	10	7	89	406	142	102	68	718																																																																																												
25. Turaiyar	241	114	90	60	505	19	6	5	3	33	260	120	95	83	538																																																																																												
26. Musiri	374	156	136	80	746	34	11	5	5	55	408	167	141	85	801																																																																																												
ARCOT CIRCLE:—																																																																																																											
27. Katpadi	1,053	379	151	91	1,674	239	71	33	23	366	1,292	450	184	114	2,040																																																																																												
28. Arkonam	666	228	71	87	1,052	181	56	22	19	278	847	284	93	106	1,330																																																																																												
29. Chingleput	788	240	107	47	1,182	132	48	20	8	208	920	288	127	55	1,390																																																																																												
30. Villupuram	1,427	443	152	167	2,189	257	68	41	24	390	1,684	511	193	191	2,579																																																																																												
TELUGU CIRCLE:—																																																																																																											
31. Guntakal	140	45	14	17	216	25	5	3	3	38	165	50	17	20	252																																																																																												
32. Cuddapah	74	25	8	10	117	8	3	0	1	12	82	28	8	11	129																																																																																												
33. Guctur	59	14	11	2	86	4	2	0	0	6	63	16	11	2	92																																																																																												
34. Nellore	16	5	2	2	25	Closed					16	5	2	2	25																																																																																												
35. Chittoor	11	12	1	2	26	Transporting Agency.					11	12	1	2	26																																																																																												
29,874						9,622						6,273						3,413						49,182						4,473						1,395						936						421						7,225						34,347						11,017						7,209						3,834						56,407						1913						...						72,683					

Assistant Commissioner's Camping Report for the month of August, 1914.

SCHEDULE OF DETAILS OF VILLAGES VISITED.

Date.	Village.	Taluk.	Post Office.	Popula- tion.	Condition of crops.	Rates of Pay.		Recruiting Prospects.	Labour available	Further Remarks.
						M.	F.			
9-8-1914	Indoor Agraharam and Indoor	Dharmapuri	Indoor	1000	Very poor	3 annas.	1½ to 2 annas.	Very fair.	Yes, if properly recruited.	People keen.
"	Belianoor Agraharam	do	Belianur Agraharam	800	Bad	3 to 4	2	Good	do	do
"	Pennageram	do	Pennageram	6000	do	4	2 to 3	Fair	do	No rain.
10-8-14	Odasalpatty	do	Marappur	600	Fair	4	3	do	do	A little rain.
"	Navali	Uttengarai	Kambainellur	100	Poor	4	2	Very fair	do	People keen.
"	Tippampatty	do	Krishnapuram	85	do	4 to 5	2	Moderate	A little	Not very keen.
11-8-14	Palakode	Dharmapuri	Palakadu	6000	Fair	4	3	Fair	do	
12-8-14	Dodadanahalli	do	do	100	do	4	2	Moderate	Not much	Mostly high caste.
	Kariamangalam	do	Kariamangalam	7000	do		2½	Fair	Yes.	
	Marendahalli	do	Marendahalli	2000	Poor	6	2	do	do	People are fairly keen.
13-8-14	Paparapatti	do	Papparapatty	5000	do	6	4	Moderate	do	
	Padi	do	do	60	do	3 to 4	1½ to 2	Very fair	do	People keen.

(Signed) E. V. B. LEVINGE,

Assistant Commissioner.

THE CEYLON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY PRICE CURRENT.

STATEMENT OF EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

No. 37

COLOMBO, MONDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 1914.

RICE.						Rs.	Cts.	@	Rs.	Cts.
Muttusamba No. 1 (without bags) per bushel F O. R. Colombo	...	...	...	...	...	6	50	"	7	00
" " 2	"	"	"	"	"	6	00	"	6	50
" " 3	"	"	"	"	"	5	50	"	6	00
Soolaye " 1	"	"	"	"	"	5	60	"	5	75
" " 2	"	"	"	"	"	5	55	"	5	60
" " 3	"	"	"	"	"	5	50	"	5	55
" Kara	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Silhet (Hari Kali)	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Pegu & Calcutta Calunda	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	5	25
Coast Calunda	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Coast Kara	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Kadappa and Kuruwe	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Rangoon Raw	"	per 3 bushel bag	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month ending August, 1914.

DETAIL.		Instructional Staff.																								REMARKS.
		Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Tppts.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Total.	
Regtl. Staff		1	1	1	3	1	7	1	1	1	1	4	11	1	1	1	3	
A. Squadron																										
Staff	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	25	29	30	...	...	...	..
" II. "	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	7	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	25	29	30	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	3	1	32	42	43	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	6	5	2	88	109	114	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron																										
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	19	23	24	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	16	18	19	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	25	28	29	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	12	15	16	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	...	3	2	2	72	86	92	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	1	1	3	1	7	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	4	11	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	6	5	2	88	109	114	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	...	3	2	2	72	86	92	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	10	1	1	9	7	4	160	199	217	1	1	1	3	
Total Strength last Return	...	1	3	3	7	1	15	1	1	0	2	2	8	1	2	9	8	4	104	142	157	...	...	...	...
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sqms.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	3	
Wanting to Complete	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	4	1	4	24	35	35	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	1	1	2	3	...	7	1	1	1	1	...	6	...	2	1	1	23	37	44	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve	...	2	4	5	13	1	25	2	2	2	3	2	16	1	1	11	8	5	183	236	261	1	1	1	3	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1914.

Coy.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.										Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.	Coy. Strength.										
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Sergt. Major.	Qr. M. Sergt.	Colour-Sergeant.			Sergeant.	Lance-Sergts & Corps.	Sergt.-Bugler.	Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.					
	Staff	1	...	1	...	2	4						
A.	Kelani Valley	1	1	1	...	3	52	58							
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	21	
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	
B.	Kandy	1	1	1	1	...	22	26	89						
	Matale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	15	18	
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	15	17	
	Rangalla	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	11	72
C.	Mattakelle	1	1	1	1	...	14	18							
	Agrapatna	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	16	19	
	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	12	15	
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	8	9	
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	18	20	
	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	8	9	
	Pundaloya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	100
D.	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	12	13	
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	9	11	
	Haputale	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	11	13	
	Badulla	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	24	29	
	Uda Pussellawa	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	13	16	
E.	Batticaloa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	9	12	94
	Kalutara	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	39	43		
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	18	19	
	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	26	27	
	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	11	14	
F.	Trincomalee	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	4	107
	Colombo	1	1	1	2	2	...	52	59	59						
G.	Ambegamuwa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	14	16	
	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	22	24	
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	14	16	56
H.	Colombo	1	2	1	3	4	...	56	67	67						
	Motor Cycle Section	...	1	...	1	1	30	33	33						
* TOTAL STRENGTH		1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1		6	19	26	1	5	592	677	677					
Strength by last Return		1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1		6	19	26	1	5	428	513						
Increase Since		164																					
Decrease Since		Total.																					
C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File																	51	=	60	Increase	...	164	
Total Strength including Reserve																	737	Reserve decrease				...	4

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain.

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

GIFT OF CEYLON TEA.

At the last General Meeting of the Ceylon Planters' Association it was resolved that this Association is in favour of a Gift of Ceylon Tea being sent to the families of the Naval and Military forces.

Arrangements (as detailed below) have now been completed for the collection and despatch of the gift.

No particular proportion of the crop or number of pounds per acre is being asked for, as this is a free donation, not a cess.

Should we be so fortunate as to receive an amount equivalent to one half per cent of each Estate's annual crop, the gift would be one worthy of Ceylon.

This being the gift of Ceylon, general co-operation is invited.

The amount of Tea and Money subscribed will be notified from time to time in the Press.

Any further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

TEA.

By kind permission of His Excellency the Governor, all contributions of Tea will be conveyed free over the Ceylon Government Railway, and all claim of export duty thereon will be waived.

The Chamber of Commerce having kindly consented to arrange for receiving and storing the Tea, all contributions should be consigned to the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Colombo, marked on one side of each package "Ceylon Tea Gift."

The gross and nett weights of each package should be clearly marked thereon.

Should the Chamber of Commerce have insufficient accommodation several Colombo Firms have offered the free use of their godowns for storing purposes.

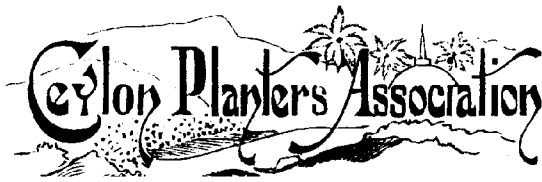
An even grade being desirable, contributions should be as far as possible restricted to Pekoe, which should be packed in bulk.

CASH.

Those who cannot give Tea but wish to subscribe to the gift are invited to send Cash, which will be devoted to buying Tea and paying for the freight thereon.

All cash subscriptions should be sent to the Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon, who will send an acknowledgment of the same to each subscriber.

JOHN STILL,
SECRETARY, P. A. OF CEYLON.



A general meeting of the Ceylon Planters' Association was held in the Victoria Commemoration Building, Kandy, September 4th, 1914. Mr. Hew Kennedy, Chairman, presided, and was supported by the Vice Chairman (the Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot). Others present were:—Messrs. A. J. Hamilton Harding, Carr Hamond, A. S. Long Price, S. L. Robertson, Nigel I. Lee, T. Y. Wright, H. Inglis, W. N. Tisdall, G. F. Farquharson, W. Sinclair, W. H. Cooke, M. P. Fraser, H. B. T. Boucher, J. F. W. Brockman, J. G. Napier, P. A. Cornish, A. V. Gould, J. R. Dashwood, F. C. Kidd, A. Lee Simpson, C. H. Walker, A. de Carey, E. H. Hitchcock, C. B. Clay, H. S. Cameron, C. D. Hunt, F. R. Bisset, Geo. Brown, M. S. Milne, C. R. T. Sangster, W. B. Dickinson, J. R. Barkley, J. S. Patterson, H. F. Laycock, C. A. Evans, T. R. Villiers, F. H. Layard, C. J. Owen, E. T. C. Farr, P. Eardley Wilmot, G. P. Gaddum, O. Shelton Agar, M. D. McNeill, G. W. Hunter Blair, G. C. Bliss, J. Graeme Sinclair, J. B. Coles, G. W. Benzie, A. A. Franklin, A. M. Reeves, C. W. Maclean, N. C. Rolt, J. Percy Horton, Jackson Smale, B. Westland, Herbert A. Lane, H. Glyn Eccles, R. R. Oakley, H. Scoble Nicholson (Ceylon Labour Commissioner), A. Thorp, G. J. Murray, E. C. Villiers, H. C. Lankester, Gerald Abbott, J. B. Sidgwick, J. H. Marcel, Maxwell Johnstone, E. F. Home and John Still (Secretary.)

CONDOLENCES.

The CHAIRMAN said that during the last few months four most notable members of the Planters' Association had died—Mr. Melville White, Mr. John Rettie, Mr. John Aymer and Mr. Joseph Fraser. The services of those gentlemen, especially the last named one, to Ceylon in general were so great that it could not be possible for them to let that occasion pass without expressing their condolences to the relatives of all of them in the usual way, which he requested them to do.

The members all stood.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

The CHAIRMAN said that since their last meeting in February war had broken out over Europe and the position of affairs in Ceylon was very different to what it was on that date. It was possible that they might experience considerable trouble or some financial stress before they had finished with the war. There were various funds suggested in Ceylon, one a gift of tea, to which reference would be made later, and since the agenda of that meeting had been published, a Prince of Wales's Fund had been started in Ceylon. It was, of course, up to everyone in Ceylon to do what they could for that Fund and he need hardly say that they would be, one and all, in accord on that matter. The

loyalty of planters in Ceylon was such a certain quantity that it was hardly necessary for him to refer to it that day—(applause)—but the war, he would like to say, was not so much a war of cash but a war of supplies. Their trade routes, thanks to the British Navy, had been kept free and so far as they could see at present, might possibly remain free. In the event of the trade routes being temporarily closed, financial troubles might arise in Ceylon and they should bear that in mind and not hold too rosy a view of the future, although they had at present no reason to believe that they would have any financial trouble. Their duty as Colonists was clearly to maintain the capital value of the Island and keep on sending supplies to the Mother Country as usual, so that the capital value of their country did not depreciate. Their duty as planters was, in the first instance, to look after the coolies, who after all had not the benefit of education and required advice and care on the part of the superintendents. There was also another matter which he felt as rather superfluous for him to mention and that was that it was up to every superintendent, more particularly now than at any other time, to play the game by his proprietors and see that every cent of the money that was spent on the estate was spent to the best purpose possible (applause). In view of the possibility of financial distress of any sort coming to any estate or estates in Ceylon their Committee had under consideration a scheme which, if the necessity arose, they would place before His Excellency the Governor for his favourable consideration. A sub-Committee had been elected that day to go into that question thoroughly and to elaborate the scheme, which would cover every interest in Ceylon. They had heard stories, idle stories, he thought, of the possibility of trouble coming with the coolies, such as a panic and that sort of thing. He did not believe it (applause). He had not got dates, but during the coffee smash coolies were very badly off indeed and in some cases were reduced to the last limits as regards food. Did they give trouble then? The answer was No. The cooly today was a more educated being than the cooly of thirty years ago and he would not give trouble now (applause). Another matter in which everyone, or a large number anyhow, were very keenly interested was the question of the volunteers in general and the contingent in particular.

A certain amount of doubt had existed in the minds of some as to how the selection of that Contingent was made. He thought it was as well for him to inform them now exactly what was the procedure adopted. As regarded the private proprietors the Secretary and himself, in conjunction with the Adjutant, did the selecting. As regarded all other volunteers each person was selected by the agent or manager in whose employ he was and each particular case had individual consideration. It was particularly laid down that only those who could be spared from the estates should be selected for the Contingent and if there was disappointment in the hearts of some who had been refused he could only say that those men's duty clearly lay in Ceylon on the estates which could not afford to let them go (hear-

heart). As regarded those who had been approved and selected and passed, if the Contingent went, they could only wish them God speed, strong in the assurance that they would not only do their duty manfully but be a credit to the Island from which they came (applause).

A DONATION FOR HIS HIGHNESS'S FUND.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN said, with the Chairman's permission, he would like to say a few words on the question of the Prince of Wales's Fund. He wished to propose that this Association do give a donation out of its funds of Rs. 1,000 to that fund (applause). Their Committee at their meeting that day carefully considered that question and they were entirely unanimous that they should give that sum of money as a donation from that Association. He therefore hoped that they would ratify that proposal.

It was proposed to get up a gift of tea which they had practically promised to the troops on the Continent and to Lord Kitchener, and later on the Chairman would be addressing them on that subject. What he wanted to say now was on behalf of the Prince of Wales's Fund that those of them who could see their way to give would do so to the utmost of their means (applause). He need hardly dwell on the advisability of supporting that fund. They all knew the details of it and anything more he could add to it would be only in the nature of platitudes. He was quite sure that the planting community would not be behind any other community in the world in coming forward and supporting that fund (applause).

The CHAIRMAN in asking them to ratify that proposal said that they were not allowed to give more than Rs. 1,000.

The proposal was passed unanimously.

COAST AGENCY CESS.

The CHAIRMAN said, on the question of the coast agency cess, that at a meeting in July it was resolved that the question of fixing the coast agency cess for 1915, should be brought before a general meeting of the Association this month. Since that meeting things had altered very much in Europe and although there seemed to be no reason why they should adopt any but a forward policy, especially at the coast in view of the present curtailment of local recruiting, which was to be welcomed, and the probable increase in coast recruiting which would naturally ensue, it seemed to be advisable to leave the matter of fixing the rate of the cess for next year over for a month or two, at any rate. It must be clearly understood that there was no idea of reducing or carrying on in the usual way. The idea was to raise it. One had to be on the safe side and for that reason it seemed to be advisable to defer the matter to some future date. He moved a resolution to that effect (applause.)

The meeting agreed.

TEA FOR THE TROOPS.

The CHAIRMAN asked that the next question on the agenda was that of tea for the troops. Their Committee met that morning and the question was fully discussed and the following resolution was passed practically unanimously.

"That this Association being unanimously in favour of a gift of tea being sent to Lord Kitchener for disposal amongst the troops or their families invites offers of tea, or money with which to purchase tea, from all members of the planting and mercantile communities, and that the Chairmen of the Planters' Association, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Estate Agents' Association be asked to form a Committee to take such steps as may be necessary to give effect to this resolution."

THE ADOPTED RESOLUTION.

After a short discussion, the resolution, with the accepted amendments, was then read to the meeting by Mr.

Still as follows:—

"That this Association, being unanimously in favour of a gift of tea being sent to Lord Kitchener and Mr. Winston Churchill for disposal proportionately amongst the families of the Naval and Military forces, invites offers of tea, or money with which to purchase tea, from all members of the planting and mercantile communities, and that the Chairmen of the Planters' Association, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Estate Agents' Association be asked to form a Committee to take such steps as may be necessary to give effect to this resolution."

This was carried, and the meeting terminated.

THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 4th September, 1914, at 12 noon.

Present:—Mr. Hew Kennedy (Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon), Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot (Kandy), Messrs. H. Inglis (Kalutara P. A.), Herbert A. MacLaren (Kalutara P. A.), L. C. Maudslay (Dickoya P. A.), G. Finch Noyes (Maskeliya P. A.), H. B. Daniell (Dickoya P. A.), G. Kent Deaker (Passara P. A.), W. E. Spurling (Visitor, Hewaheta), E. F. Home (Chairman, Kandy Districts P. A.), Stanley Hillman (Kandy Districts P. A.), N. C. Rolt (Chairman, Ramboda P. A.), W. H. Murray (Pussellawa P. A.), J. G. Napier (K. K. & Panwila P. A.), Geo. Benzie (Pussellawa P. A.), J. Graeme Sinclair (Kandy), Wm. Sinclair (Rangala P. A.), J. S. Armstrong (Visitor, Hewaheta), J. L. Tancock (Kandy), A. Lee Simpson (Kandy Districts P. A.), Martin M. Smith (Kandy), E. T. C. Farr (Udapussellawa P. A.), C. J. Owen (Chairman, Udapussellawa P. A.), H. S. Cameron (Chairman, Matala P. A.), C. W. MacLean (Visitor, Udapussellawa), George Brown (Chairman, Sabaragamuwa P. A.), J. R. Barkley (Chairman, Kalutara P. A.), W. G. Dickinson (Kalutara P. A.), J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman, Punduloya P. A.), J. Henry Marcel (Punduloya P. A.), E. C. Villiers (Hon. Secretary, Sabaragamuwa P. A.), Neill G. Campbell (Nuwara Eliya Districts P. A.), H. F. Laycock (Dickoya P. A.), A. J. Hamilton Harding (Chairman, Dimbula P. A.), C. B. Clay (Rangala P. A.), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P. A.), P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary, Pussellawa P. A.), J. C. Mitchell (Hon. Secretary, Kelani Valley

P. A.), L. Bayly (Chairman, Kelani Valley P. A.), G. H. Masefield (Kandy), J. S. Patterson (Kandy), A. S. Long Price (Kandy), J. B. Coles (Kandy), Gerald Abbott (Matale P. A.), T. L. Villiers (Colombo), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), F. H. Layard (Kandy), H. B. T. Boucher (Rangala P. A.), M. H. Reeves (Chairman, Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), Gordon Windus (Udapussellawa P. A.), Wallace R. Westland (Kandy), W. N. Tisdall (Kandy), S. R. Hamer (Hon. Secretary, Kandy Districts P. A.), A. Thorp (Matale P. A.), H. Scoble Nicholson (Ceylon Labour Commissioner—Trichinopoly, Visitor), R. R. Oakley (Hon. Secretary, Kegalle P. A.), A. A. Franklin (Chairman, Kegalle P. A.), Jackson Smale (Kegalle P. A.), G. W. Hunter Blair (K. K. & Panwila P. A.), D. Westland (Visitor, Pussellawa), M. S. Milne (Chairman, Kotmalie P. A.), and John Still (Secretary P. A. of Ceylon)—58 members and five visitors.

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 10th July, 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. William Gibson, A. A. Bowie, W. de Lemos, A. L. Gibson, J. Thomson Broom, C. B. Prettejohn, Huntley Wilkinson, F. J. Poyntz Roberts, W. G. B. Dickson, and Rodney Mylius.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Kandy Committee, viz.:—Messrs. J. Graeme Sinclair, T. L. Villiers, and G. F. Farquharson.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Read letter from the Badulla Planters' Association forwarding resolution concerning road and stream reservation. This point had been raised by the Matale District Planters' Association at the last meeting and the Secretary was directed to make the same reply in this instance as was given then.

Read correspondence with Government regarding a resolution brought forward by the Udapussellawa Planters' Association at the last meeting:—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, July 22nd, 1914.

The HON. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.
Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter received from the Udapussellawa Planters' Association and am directed respectfully to inquire whether Government has in view any way of preventing such blackmailers as described in Mr. Thornton's letter from carrying on their objectionable trade unchecked.

I have no instances to quote, but could no doubt obtain some if they are required.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

No. —/13762
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, August 31st, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

BIBES FOR ABSTAINING FROM BIDDING AT LAND SALES.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 22nd July, 1914, relative to the above subject, I am directed by H. E. the Governor to inform you that, in the absence of specific proposals from the Planters' Association, Government is not disposed to take any action in the matter, but that they will be ready to extend careful consideration to any practical scheme which the Association may frame and recommend whether for leases or otherwise.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) JOHN SCOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

Resolved:—"That this question be reported on by a sub-Committee consisting of the Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot, Messrs. C. J. Owen, Nigel I. Lee, the Chairman and the Secretary."

THE PROPOSED CEYLON CONTINGENT.

Mr. T. L. VILLIERS detailed the satisfactory measures being taken in Colombo to encourage and assist Volunteers for the Contingent.

FINANCES.

The CHAIRMAN notified to the meeting that although there did not yet appear to be cases of difficulty in making payments on estates, it had been deemed wise to prepare some scheme to meet possible eventualities. The idea was outlined and it was decided to appoint a sub-Committee to go thoroughly into the question. Resolved:—"That the Estate Agents' Association be invited to nominate three members, that the Chairmen of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Low-country Products Association be asked to serve on this sub-Committee and that the following members be appointed by the Planters' Association, viz.:—The Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot, Messrs. J. B. Coles, M. Martin Smith, A. S. Long Price, H. Inglis, G. C. Bliss, Wm. Sinclair, G. H. Masefield, Neill G. Campbell, the Chairman and the Secretary; with power to add to their number."

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

Read letter from the Government Entomologist pointing out that the officer appointed to study this disease could not become an expert for some time after his arrival in Ceylon.

Resolved:—"That this Committee approves the regulations proposed by Government."

POST OFFICE.

Read letter from Mr. Thorp regarding the use of abbreviated addresses for telegrams.

Resolved:—"That no action be taken."

ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS.

Read the following letter from the Principal Civil Medical Officer:

No. 9303/1038
Colombo, August 26th, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association,
Fairlawn Group, Maskeliya.

SIR,

With reference to former correspondence on the subject of the Anchylostomiasis experiments, I have the honour to inform you that, owing to the War, Government considers it advisable to postpone any definite action at present.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) A. PERRY.
P.C.M.O. & I.G.H.

MEDICAL WANTS COMMITTEE.

Read correspondence with the Estate Agents' Association.

JAVA RUBBER EXHIBITION.

Read telegram from the Director intimating that the above Exhibition will open on the 19th October.

Resolved:—"That the Secretary do write and express regret that the Planters' Association cannot participate owing to the War."

CARDAMOM THEFTS.

The Hon. the Rural Member, Legislative Council, stated that in his opinion the present was not the time to press Government in this matter, and the meeting concurred with his views.

EXCISE.

Resolved:—"That this question be left over until the next meeting and that Government be informed that it is not the intention of the Planters' Association to continue the correspondence at present."

RAGAMA AND MANDAPAM CAMPS

Read the following letter from Government:—

No. —/012877
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 31st July, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter of the 27th May, 1914, I am directed to inform you that arrangements have been made which will, it is believed, have the effect of expediting the despatch of cooly bills to the estates.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) M. A. YOUNG
for Colonial Secretary.

RAILWAY EXTENSION.

Read letter from the Kelani Valley Planters' Association *re* the employment on the Negombo Railway Extension of estate cooly absconders.

Mr. L. Bayly spoke briefly, and Mr. Mitchell elaborated the point. Finally it was resolved that the Chief Construction Engineer be asked to explain the alleged facts, and that if his explanation did not appear satisfactory the aggrieved estate's Superintendent should be invited to prosecute the responsible party, the Planters' Association guaranteeing his expenses.

LIQUID FUEL.

A number of letters regarding the difficulty of obtaining liquid fuel had been received, but it was resolved not to press Government at the present moment.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S FUND.

It was resolved unanimously "that one thousand rupees be subscribed to this Fund from the funds of the Planters' Association."

THE PROPOSED GIFT OF TEA TO THE TROOPS.

The following resolution was framed for proposal at the general meeting to follow in the afternoon:—"That this Association, being unanimously in favour of a gift of tea being sent to Lord Kitchener and to Mr. Churchill for disposal proportionately among the families of the Naval and Military forces, invites offers of tea, or money with which to purchase tea, from all members of the Planting and Mercantile Communities, and that the Chairman of the Planters' Association, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Estate Agents' Association be asked to form a Committee to take such steps as may be necessary to give effect to this resolution."

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the meeting.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

THIRTY COMMITTEE.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" appointed to administer the proceeds of the export duty on tea levied under Ordinance No. 4 of 1894 for increasing the consumption of Ceylon tea in foreign lands, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 4th September, 1914:—

Present:—Mr. Hew Kennedy (Chairman), Hon. Mr. R. Hyshe Eliot, Messrs. H. F. Laycock, H. G. Eccles, H. Inglis, J. S. Patterson, J. B. Coles, G. C. Bliss, J. Graeme Sinclair, T. L. Villiers, Martin M. Smith, F. H. Layard, and John Still (Secretary)—thirteen members.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" held at Kandy on Friday, the 8th May, 1914, at 10-30 a.m. were submitted for confirmation. Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Resolved:—"That Mr. T. L. Villiers be elected a member of the 'Thirty Committee'"

FINANCE.

A financial statement was laid on the table. Resolved:—"That this Committee is in favour of making a gift of Rs. 30,000 to the Prince of Wales's Fund." Resolved:—"That enquiries be made regarding the feasibility of making a gift of Rs. 30,000 to be expended in buying and despatching tea to the Russian Troops."

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Read the following letter from the Director of the Imperial Institute:—

Imperial Institute,
South Kensington, London, S.W.,
16th July, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,

"Thirty Committee,"

Ceylon Planters' Association,

40 & 41, Ward Street, Kandy, Ceylon.

DEAR SIR,

In the despatch addressed in February, 1911, to the Colonial Office by the Governor of Ceylon, advocating the erection of the Ceylon Pavilion at the Imperial Institute, His Excellency reported that the Thirty Committee of the Planters' Association had promised to provide £200 per annum for the first two years of its inauguration to cover working expenses during that period.

As stated in my letter of the 9th July, the Ceylon Pavilion is now open and Ceylon tea is being served to visitors. I shall therefore be glad to receive the above contribution in respect of the coming twelve months in order that requisite arrangements may be made with regard to maintenance.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) WYNDHAM R. DUNSTAN.

The Secretary was directed to make the payment requested.

MEETINGS.

Resolved:—"That in future 'Thirty Committee' meetings be held at the end of the General Committee meetings."

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the meeting.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary, "Thirty Committee."



MORAWAKORALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at the Deniyaya Rest House on Saturday, the 15th August, at 9 a.m. Present: Messrs. M. S. Furlong, T. W. Oliver, E. C. Anderson, D. M. Rajapakse, C. B. Collisson, A. C. Hayley (visitor), and W. M. Wade-Gery (Chairman and Hon. Secy.).

DENIYAYA BUTCHER.

Several complaints were made regarding the insufficient supply of meat by the butcher.

RESOLVED:—"That the butcher be written to and warned."

DENIYAYA LIQUOR SHOP.

The CHAIRMAN informed the members present that a petition had been presented to the G. A. at Deniyaya on the 24th July, praying for the continuance of the license. This petition had been signed by a few Deniyaya residents. The Chairman pointed out that the petition had been signed by some fifteen residents, yet on the other hand none of the European Planters, who control some 5,000 coolies, had signed it.

Resolved:—"That the G. A. be written to and asked that in spite of the petition the license should not be renewed."

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Mr. A. C. Hayley attended the meeting to discuss with the Planters local conditions as regards the newly-formed Motor Transport Company, and local conditions, etc., were freely discussed.

ROADS.

Read correspondence re making of crossing-places for lorries on the Deniyaya-Hayes Road.

Resolved:—"That this Association await Government's reply on the subject."

Read correspondence re condition of Deniyaya-Hayes Road.

Read correspondence re Kotapolla-Urubokka Minor Road.

RESOLUTIONS FROM LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.

Read Resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P. A. re supervision of taverns, etc.

Resolved.—"That this Association do support the resolution provided that there is no increase in the number of taverns."

Read Resolution from the Pundaluoya, P. A. re bolting coolies.

Resolved unanimously:—"That the resolution be supported."

This being all the business the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

W. M. WADE-GERY,

Hon. Secretary.

M. K. P. A.

KALUTARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at Matugama on Friday, 21st August, 1914.

Present:—Messrs. J. R. Barkley (Chairman), F. J. Ingleby, G. Thornton Pett, L. Fergusson, R. Garnier, L. P. Gapp, P. H. O. Ash, K. A. Burne, C. E. A. Dias, H. Inglis, W. G. Dickinson, T. H. Hadden, R. M. Ash, H. A. MacLaren, H. A. Nance, and W. S. Niebecker (Hon. Secretary).

The usual preliminaries having been gone through, the CHAIRMAN rose to propose a sincere vote of condolence with the widow and relatives of the late Mr. A. J. Dawson, which was carried in silence all standing.

Read resolution forwarded by Pundaluoya Planters' Association relating to certain coolies absconding to the Coast via the Mandapam route, which received cordial support.

The following matters were discussed in Committee, i.e., roads, motor transport, telephones, railway extension and police matters.

EXCISE SCHEME.

The resolution sent by the Ratnapura Association was discussed, and the opinion of the meeting was that while sympathising with the scheme in general, it would be inadvisable to interfere with the present arrangements made by the Excise Commissioner with regard to sites of taverns.

The suggestion to appoint Honorary Officers met with unanimous support.

The European Crisis.

FINANCIAL EFFECT.

A general discussion took place on the European crisis, and the effect it would have on the planting industry finan-

cially. It was unanimously decided that the resolutions appended be sent to the Parent Association, and to the Estates Agency Association, asking for their support and co-operation in dealing with the situation. The meeting was of opinion that owing to a proportion of the estates in the district having already paid their labour July balances, it was incumbent on the remaining estates to work in unison and pay their coolies for July before the end of the current month.

PROPRIETORS AND SUPERINTENDENTS.

It was further resolved that unless all the proprietors and agents supported their superintendents and dealt with the situation from a firm and unanimous point of view much discontent and disorganisation would result, and it was therefore necessary for them to keep in close touch with their superintendents and consider the matter very carefully.

PAYMENT OF COOLIES.

It was considered indispensable that in dealing with the payment of labourers for future months all estates in the island should work together to avoid a repetition of what had been experienced during the current month.

MOVEMENT OF LABOUR.

With regard to the issuing of tundu and the movement of coolies from one estate to the other, the meeting was strongly of opinion that under present conditions no dealings should be allowed, and it hoped that this would be loyally carried out by all.

(Resolutions referred to.)

(1.) That the Parent Association be requested to consider the feasibility of all estates co-operating, with a view to the future monthly payment of labourers being made the same throughout the planting districts.

(2.) That members of the Planters' Association of Ceylon do, until further notice, agree not to take on any coolies whatsoever from other estates.

Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

W. S. NIEBECKER,

Hon. Secretary.

HEWAHETA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of a general meeting held at Pattiagama Club on Saturday, 22nd August, 1914:—**Present** Messrs. H. S. Popham, D. H. Williams, P. D. Hickman, G. W. Harris, H. North, and W. C. Hawkes (Chairman and Hon. Secretary.) **Visitors:**—Messrs. Egan, Marshall and Knowles.

The minutes of the meetings held on June 16th and emergency meeting of 5th August were read and confirmed.

REMOVAL OF POST OFFICES.

Read letter from the Postmaster-General *re* Government's proposal to close the Galaha and Deltota Post Offices and open one office somewhere between the two.

This matter was discussed at length by most of the members present and all were unanimous in condemning the proposition.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the P. M. G. to this effect.

LATE ARRIVAL OF TAPPAL AT HEWAHETA.

A letter from the P. M. G. was read giving the time sheet of the tappal runner for June and July.

Mr. PORHAM promised to verify these hours of arrival by the entries in the Postmaster's writing in the Hope Tappal Book.

Letter from Sabaragamuwa Association *re* supervision of arrack taverns was read and it was decided to leave this matter in the hands of the Central P.A.

Letter from the G. A., Kandy, *re* Pilgrims to Rameswaram was read, also resolution from Pundaloya P. A. *re* Bolters by the new route to India. There being no further business before the meeting it closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

WALTER C. HAWKES,
Hon. Secretary.

AMBEGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Ambegamuwa Planters' Association was held at the Central Hotel, Nawalapitiya, on the 26th ultimo. Present:—Messrs. O. Balean (Chairman), E. Ware, S. H. Grigg, H. L. Blacklaw, R. Bennet and R. A. Senior-White (Hon. Secretary).

Mr. R. Bennet was elected a member of the Committee in place of the late Mr. J. Aymer and a vote of sympathy with Mrs. and Miss Aymer was passed, the members all standing. The Secretary was asked to write expressing same.

Read resolution from the Sabaragamuwa P. A. *re* Arrack Taverns; it was decided to leave the same to the Parent Association.

Members were informed that the Medical Scheme in connection with the Dikoya P. A. was only available for estates adjacent to the cart-road as far as Norton and estates on the railway as far as Galboda. It was decided to leave

the matter of anchylostomiasis over until Dr. Hunt gave out what was to be done.

With regard to the delay to the Nawalapitiya hospital a long discussion took place, and it was decided to write again the Colonial Secretary on the matter. It was decided to press the Government to include a small ward in connection with the reconstruction of the Watawala Dispensary.

The Telephone Scheme was left in abeyance owing to the present war.

Correspondence was read *re* Arrack Taverns, the Life Association, Railway rates on straw, Bridge over the Masanawatte Ganga. The Secretary was instructed to seek the usual subscription to the S. P. C. A.

Mr. Blackmore was selected to act in place of Mr. Shand as J. P. and U. P. M. during the latter's absence in Europe.

A resolution from the Pundaloya Planters' Association *re* Bolters to India was supported.

RONALDE SENIOR-WHITE,
Hon. Secretary, A. P. A.

BADULLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Badulla Planters' Association was held in the New Town Hall, Badulla, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 12th, 1914, preceded by a Committee meeting at 9 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN, Mr. R. Gatehouse, presided, and those present at the general meeting were:—Messrs. T. Elliott, J. W. Scott, H. St. Geo. Carey, Robert Stewart, J. W. Balfour Paul, A. E. Peter, C. F. M. Horsford, C. W. Murland, K. Sentance Smith, A. I. Jainu Deen, K. Jainu Deen, N. F. Palmer, L. Archdale, N. Stewart, G. L. E. Doudney, W. Alfred Williams, C. W. Beattie, C. F. W. Stewart Taylor, W. J. Forbes, J. D. Waller, John Gordon (visitor) and Wilfred Rettie (Hon. Secretary).

VOTES OF CONDOLENCE.

The CHAIRMAN said his first duty was a sad one. The Association had suffered a very great loss in the death of one of its oldest members.

MR. JOHN RETTIE.

Mr. Rettie had always taken the keenest interest in the doings of the Association. He had occupied the chair for some years and his advice and counsel were ever at the service of members. He asked the Association to pass a vote of condolence and sympathy to his widow.

The CHAIRMAN also referred to the recent death of Joseph Fraser, in whom the Island had lost one of its

prominent men. Although Mr. Fraser was not an Uva resident, his death came as a great blow to many present. He asked the Association to pass a vote of condolence to Mrs. Fraser in her sad bereavement. Both resolutions were passed, all present standing.

A letter was read from the Pundaluoya Association offering a resolution. "That, owing to the Railway being now open to India, the Parent Association, be asked whether they could see their way to elaborating a scheme for preventing estate coolies from bolting to the Coast without leave, especially by rail."

The CHAIRMAN considered this a sound proposal. Bolting was still very prevalent and steps should be taken to repress it. Only coolies in possession of special forms or authorised Railway Certificates should be permitted to proceed to the Coast. Similar forms could be adopted by Government for labour employed by them.

Other members expressed themselves in favour of the proposal and the resolution was strongly supported.

RESERVATIONS ON CROWN LAND.

Submitted a letter from the Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon, embodying a resolution passed at a meeting of the Committee held on July 10th: "That this Association be informed that the Government Agents and Settlement Officers have at the present time the power to recommend that any such reservations as appear unwarrantable and vexatious shall be leased or sold; and further that the Badulla P.A. be invited to quote any specific instances of such recommendations being negatived by Government."

The CHAIRMAN explained that this was the outcome of the resolution passed by the Badulla Association, which had been supported and sent in to Kandy by the Matale Association, without waiting for the former to take the initiative. He did not consider the power granted the Government Agents and Settlement Officers was of much value, for their recommendations were frequently negatived.

Several members supported this statement and instanced cases in which the Government Agent held out little hope of such reservations being leased by Government.

It was decided to send in particulars to Kandy.

SABARAGAMUWA'S EXCISE PROPOSALS.

The Excise Scheme from the Sabaragamuwa P.A. was next submitted. The Chairman explained that the proposals were under the consideration of a specially appointed Committee of the Planters' Association. It was decided to await its report, though a number present commented unfavourably on the scheme.

IMPORTANT SUBJECT DISCUSSED AT COMBINED MEETING.

The CHAIRMAN announced that a Committee meeting of the United Uva Planters' Associations (Badulla, Passara

and Haputale) had been held the previous day with a view to arriving at common understanding in the Province regarding the price of rice, the payment of labour and the question of coolie transactions during the war. A number of recommendations had resulted, and it was decided that, in the event of the three Associations being unanimous in the matter, and there was every reason to believe they would, a letter should be written to the Estate Agents' Association asking that body to exercise its influence in seeing that the recommendations were carried out on estates under its control. All points had received careful consideration and the Meeting had been unanimous. The proposals were:—

(a) That from October 1st, rice be issued at cost price throughout the estates in the three Associations of Badulla, Passara and Haputale.

(b) That from October 1st, it be agreed to limit rice issues to coolies as follows: Men 3/4 of a bushel per mensem, women 5/8 of a bushel per mensem, children 1/8 of a bushel per mensem and that Superintendents use their discretion in cases of large families dependent on one individual.

(c) That from and including September, a maximum of half the balance pay be paid to coolies per mensem, and the balance credited to advance account.

(d) (1) That from October 1st, no Superintendent take on coolies without the written permission of the paying off Superintendent. (2) That a Committee be appointed to deal with any disputes. Rider:—It is trusted members will use their discretion in allowing individual coolies to proceed to other estates when the circumstances warrant it.

The CHAIRMAN said it was obvious that a fixed monthly price was not feasible, for in some instances the price of rice differed on adjoining estates to the extent of from 70 cts.—1/-. If one estate paid more than its neighbour, it was the Superintendent's duty to point this out to his Agents. The latter would be in the best position to adjust this. It was unnecessary to comment further on the other proposals.

A discussion ensued and the recommendations were passed unanimously. The following Committee was appointed in connection with section (d):—Messrs. T. G. Elliott, Robert Stewart, J. W. Balfour Paul, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

PRINCE OF WALES'S FUND.

The CHAIRMAN in bringing this matter to the notice of members said that nothing which had yet come before them had merited greater sacrifices than this, and he strongly appealed to the generosity of members. There were indications that Ceylon's contingent would not be accepted and if they were unable to assist the Mother Country in the fighting line, it was the duty of all to give liberally to alleviate the inevitable suffering in England. He invited them to subscribe not what they could afford, but more than they could afford. He proposed that

the sum collected should appear as a donation from the Association, as he did not see the necessity for the publication of individual subscriptions.

A sum of Rs. 3,000 was collected from those in the room. It was decided to send the list round to all members not present, with a strong appeal for liberal support.

THE LOCAL REGIMENT.

In the absence of Mr. H. St. Geo. Carey, Mr. J. W. BALFOUR PAUL proposed the following resolution. "That the Parent Association be asked to approach H. E. the Governor with the suggestion that the local regiment be offered for active service; and its place taken by the Volunteer Force."

Mr. PAUL said there appeared to be considerable doubt as to Ceylon's offer of a contingent being accepted. If the Island was unable to spare men from the C.M.R. and C.P.R.C. to go to the front, he considered they could at least assist locally by taking the place of the regiment and garrisoning the Island, thus releasing one of the finest regiments in the Indian Army.

Mr. A. E. PETER, on behalf of Mr. W. G. B. Dickson seconded, and strongly supported the resolution, which was carried *nem con.*

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

WILFRED RETTIE,

Hon. Secretary.

PASSARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A special General Meeting of the Passara Planters' Association was held at the Passara Gun Club Pavilion on September 12th.

The members present were:—Mr. R. Bannerman (Chairman), and Messrs. Robinson, Duncan, Norman, Bisset, Massy, Jones, Stewart, Clarke, Bremner and Bernard Strachan (Hon. Secretary). Visitors:—Messrs. Field, Platz and O'Connell.

The meeting went into Committee and various subjects were discussed.

At the conclusion the meeting resolved itself into a general meeting and the following resolution, proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. J.J. Robinson, was passed unanimously: "That this Association places on record its deep concern at the news of the death of Mr. John Rettie, and expresses its great sympathy with his relations both at Home and in Ceylon."

The Chairman said that Uva and the Island could ill afford to lose Mr. Rettie. He was one of the kindest-hearted of men, and, moreover, a leader in planting politics in the province.

Mr. Robinson endorsed the Chairman's remarks, and

said he had known the late Mr. John Rettie for 38 years, and a better friend and a better planter he had never met.

BERNARD STRACHAN

Hon. Secretary,
Passara Planters' Association.

HAPUTALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting of the above Association was held at Haputale Resthouse on Friday, the 18th instant, at which the following were present:—Messrs. B. J. Wyllie, A. Fellowes-Gordon, A. Scovell and A. J. Percy Wills (Chairman and Hon. Secretary).

The correspondence was considered and left over to be discussed at the general meeting.

An extraordinary general meeting was held at 1 p.m., at which there were present in addition to those at the Committee meeting, Messrs. C. F. Dowker, C. M. Durrant, C. Thain Davidson, A. Allen, S. B. Smith, A. James, W. Allan, A. Cassie, C. J. Bayley, R. Smerdon, Bell, B. T. Heathcote, J. A. Coombe, S. A. Michels, and one visitor.

Letters were placed on the table from Messrs. W. Wilson, O. H. Warren, W. M. Hall and Cobham Grant, regretting their inability to attend.

The notice calling the meeting was read and the minutes of the last general meeting were confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN explained that Mr. MacLoughlin who was elected Hon. Secretary at the last meeting, had written immediately after the meeting regretting his inability to undertake the duties, which had since been undertaken by the Chairman, who expressed his willingness to continue them until the annual general meeting, which met with the members' approval.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter was read from the General Manager, C.G.R., re a request for a goods siding at Idulgashena, in which he stated that he was unable to comply with the request at present, but might do so after the completion of the Badulla extension. The General Manager, however, offered to stop two trains a day, if early notification was given by intending passengers, to pick up passengers from the Beauvais goods shed.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write and thank the General Manager for his letter.

The resolutions as passed by the combined Uva Planters' Associations Committee were then brought up for consideration.

a. That rice be issued to coolies at cost price on all estates in Uva.

b. That the amount of rice issued to coolies should not exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ bushel for men, 5-8 for women, and $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel for children in any one month.

c. That the maximum pay paid to the coolies should not exceed half balance pay due in any month.

d. That no superintendent should take on coolies from another estate in the province without the consent of the

paying off superintendent, a District Committee to decide all disputes. Rider: That superintendents will use their discretion in allowing individual coolies to be paid off in cases of marriage, etc.

The meeting decided to go into Committee and consider the resolutions, and after a lengthy discussion, in which amendments by Messrs. Heathcote and Michels were proposed to resolution 'b' and defeated, the Committee resolved itself into general meeting again, and the resolutions were put to the vote. 'a' and 'b' were not passed, 'c' was passed by 14 votes to 10, and 'd' unanimously.

A sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. Heathcote, Allen, Fellowes-Gordon, and the Chairman was appointed to draw up the annual report.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

A. J. PERCY WILLS,
Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

MATALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Matala Planters' Association was held at the Borron Memorial Hall on Saturday, the 19th instant, preceded by a Committee meeting. Mr. H. S. Cameron, the Chairman, presided and among those present were Messrs. John A. M. Bond, E. M. Biggs, C. A. Evans, John Taylor, C. J. Hutchinson, Bruce Westland, Gerald P. Kelly, Dan. Joseph, E. E. B. Muller, H. M. Stratford, C. Pern, H. B. Thompson, G. V. Neave, A. P. C. Phillips, C. P. Anderson, H. W. Vickers, H. F. C. Horsfall, T. A. Pitfield, Joseph Malcolmson, E. Mansell Le Feuvre, R. P. Gordon, Gerald Abbott, W. T. Miller, and J. F. W. Brockman (Hon. Secretary).

THE LATE MR. JOSEPH FRASER.

The CHAIRMAN: Before proceeding with the meeting I wish to propose a vote of condolence at the death of Mr. Joseph Fraser. He was an old and respected member of this Association from its very inception. I am sure it is the feeling of the meeting that we extend to the bereaved members of his family our heartiest condolence and sympathies at their loss and the Hon. Secretary be empowered to convey this expression to Mrs. Fraser at Home and to her son Mr. Fred Fraser at Pitakande estate.

Mr. JOSEPH MALCOLMSON: "I wish to support the resolution. I find it difficult to express in words that I felt at the loss sustained by us. We are all personally aware of the way he went into planting matters in a scientific way. In giving us Ceylon planters a "special fertilizer" for tea, he certainly did more for the production of tea, thereby adding to its progress, than any man who had ever been to Ceylon." But that is hardly a matter to be put forward in a vote of condolence, the speaker said. He had known the late Mr. Fraser for years. Most of them in the Island could not have helped being glad to meet him. He always had such a genial manner and kindly word and kind heart. He never heard him say an unkind word. Mr. Fraser looked

at the best side of everything he came up with. His optimism and geniality was always refreshing. He was ready to have a kind word and help anyone in his power. Everyone who looks back upon the old days which were more difficult than the present would feel that he has lost a friend of early days in Ceylon.

The vote of condolence was passed in silence, those present standing.

THE LATE COLONEL GORDON REEVES.

The CHAIRMAN: We have lost another valued member of our Association by the death of the late Colonel E. Gordon Reeves. He was a very popular figure among us and with the C.M.R., which owes its existence to him. I propose a vote of condolence be passed and forwarded to Mrs. Gordon Reeves at Home and to her son, Mr. F. L. Reeves, who is in the Island.

Mr. DANIEL JOSEPH: I wish to add a few words to what fell from the Chairman. The late Colonel Gordon Reeves was a tower of strength to our Association. He was a gentleman who was held in the highest esteem by the native communities in the Matala District. We all know the deep interest he took, not only in planting matters, but he went one step further. I say that today but for him the island would be extinct of game. He took a very warm interest in securing the desired special legislation for the purpose of putting a stop to the wanton and indiscriminate destruction of elk, deer, etc., by villagers. When he was agitating for this legislation, I remember the late Governor, Sir Henry Blake, speaking to me about planters asking for special legislation against the destruction of wild game. "You must remember" His Excellency said "that the fundamental principle of the Government is the protection of the interests of the poor. The special legislation asked for by the planters was directly against the villagers who are enjoying the privilege of the use and of the sale of dried meat, hide and horns, of deer and elk." "You must also remember" His Excellency added; "that some of them are poor and depend for the necessities of life on this source and won't it be foolish to ask for such legislation, for wild game is the property of the villagers." I told His Excellency that the planters are doing the best thing for the villagers for if the destruction of game goes on indiscriminately the result would be the villagers will not have a skin left for them in a short time. The late Colonel Gordon Reeves has done a great service to the native community by putting forth all his energy in conjunction with other generous-hearted gentlemen in obtaining the Game Protection Ordinance for the Island.

The vote of condolence was passed in the usual way, all present standing.

SALE OF WORK.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Rev. A. S. Amerasekera, of the Parsonage, Matala, as regards the sale of work, which is to come off on the 2nd October. The letter asked for the support of the planters as they had

given to the previous sales in aid of the Church. This year 10 per cent. of the proceeds of the sale will be given to the Prince of Wales's war fund.

The CHAIRMAN said he hoped they would give support as the object was a working one.

DEFAULTERS.

The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of subscribers to there being a large defaulters' list as regards payment of subscription to the Association and wished that those who have yet to pay will send in their subscriptions after this intimation. The list was read.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

UKUWELLA TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

A letter was read from the Postmaster-General that the telegraph office at Ukuwella will be opened on the 1st October, 1914.

THE RATTOTA POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

The CHAIRMAN said they had written for figures as to what constituted the receipts of the Rattota telegraph office and as to how the loss on the working of the Rattota telegraph office was arrived at, and the Postmaster-General has supplied same. Mr. E. W. Le Feuvre did not want them now, but any gentleman interested in the subject could have a look at them.

The CHAIRMAN also pointed out the necessity of paying up the difference asked for by the P.M.G. as loss on Rattota telegraph office according to the guarantee given and advised early settlement of the matter.

The CHAIRMAN said that at the last meeting it was decided to ask the P.M.G. as to what steps will be taken either to close or continue the Rattota telegraph office or another office opened on guarantee after the expiry of the period of guarantee.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following letter on the subject received in reply to their query:—

Office of the Postmaster-General
and Director of Telegraphs.
Colombo, June 1st, 1914.

To the HONORARY SECRETARY,
Matale P.A., Matale.

RATTOTA TELEGRAPHIC OFFICE.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter dated the 27th May, 1914, bearing the above number, I have the honour to inform you that the question of the continuance of the office as a telegraph office after the expiration of the period of guarantee will be one for the decision of Government, who, I should say, would be influenced largely by the then financial condition of the office.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) F. J. SMITH.
Postmaster-General.

GUARANTEE FOR TELEGRAPH OFFICES.

The following extracts from the copy of the guarantee with reference to Elkadua Telegraph Office will be interesting to those concerned:—

Whereas by certain rules dated the 12th May, 1910, and published in the Government Gazette bearing No. 6376, dated the thirteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and ten, it was notified that in the event of any person or persons applying for a new Telegraph Office, the Government would be prepared to grant such privilege provided however a guarantee be given for the prompt payment of half the loss for a period of five years to be estimated according to the said published rules if it should appear to the Postmaster-General and the Director of Telegraph that such new Telegraph Office would not pay its expenses within five years.

And whereas the said guarantors have applied for a Telegraph Office at Elkadua and the Government having estimated half the loss for the period of five years at Rupees five hundred per annum, the said guarantors have agreed to and with the Postmaster-General to give a guarantee for the payment of the said sum, each guarantor being liable to the extent of one hundred rupees only.

And whereas the Postmaster-General has agreed to open a Telegraph Office at Elkadua and has called upon the said guarantors to enter into these presents for securing the payment of half the loss for five years estimated in manner aforesaid.

Now this indenture witnesseth that in pursuance of the said agreement and in consideration of the premises the said guarantors hereby covenant with the Postmaster-General that they, the said guarantors will at all times hereafter for a period of five years from the opening of the said Telegraph Office at Elkadua, indemnify and keep indemnified the Postmaster-General against half the actual losses estimated according to the said rules in the working of the said Telegraph Office provided however, that the sum in which each guarantor shall be liable shall not exceed one hundred rupees per annum for a period of five years.

ELKADUA TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

In this connection the following letter was read:—

Office of the Postmaster-General
and Director of Telegraphs.
Colombo, July 14th, 1914.

To the HONORARY SECRETARY,
Matale Planters' Association, Matale.

SIR,

Adverting to my letter No. 26005/08 of the 2nd ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of the guarantee in connection with the proposed Telegraph Office at Elkadua, and to inform you that provision for this extension has been included in my draft estimates for the next financial year.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) W. MACREADY.
For Postmaster-General.

TELEPHONES.

Mr. John A. M. Bond, who has been appointed Hon. Secretary of the Matale District Telephones, read the following letter:—

Ceylon Telegraph and Telephone Department,
Colombo, 18th June, 1914.

MATALE TELEPHONES.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 9th instant, addressed to the Postmaster-General, I have the honour to inform you that Matale being a town the establishment of a Telephone exchange there must be undertaken by Government, and if sufficient support is forthcoming to justify the undertaking I am prepared to recommend the adoption of the following rates for a Government Exchange in Matale:—

(1) Within the Local Board limits, for a business line up to 2 miles or under Rs. 125 per annum. For a residential or non-professional line up to 2 miles or under Rs. 90 per annum, agreements in both cases to be for one year with three months' notice to be given to terminate at any time after that period. (2) Outside the Local Board limits for the 1st mile Rs. 90 per annum, for 2nd and each succeeding mile or part thereof Rs. 40 per annum. Supplementary charges for additional apparatus as per Colombo rates (copy attached).

Agreements:—Lines of 2 miles, or less, 2 years and an additional year for each mile up to five miles.

2. The charges mentioned are all annual charges and no installation charges are made unless the circumstances are unusual.

3. Groups of estates not belonging to the same owner will be at liberty to apply for a license to establish exchanges of their own and to ask Government to run a trunk line from the Government exchange to the exchange, but it is advisable to work with one central exchange if possible. A circular letter from the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary is attached for information. If the license is granted a small charge will be made for each conversation over that trunk line and a guarantee will be required for a certain minimum revenue for that trunk line.

4. If trunk line is required guarantee will probably have to be given that sufficient fees for trunk calls will be obtained to pay a reasonable return on the capital expenditure and maintenance charges. Trunk fee for a minutes conversation between Kandy and Matale will most probably be 25 cents.

5. I shall be glad if you will give me full particulars as to the probable subscribers to the proposed exchange at Matale, i.e., probable number, names, and localities of the subscribers approximate distance from the Post Office in each case and definite promises to take up the connection at the dates quoted if these are approved by Government. It must be understood that the above are my views based on imperfect knowledge of the local details and must not be taken as in any way binding on Government.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. MORRISON,
Superintendent of Traffic.

Mr. BOND said: From the above letter, it will be seen that the Establishment of a Telephone Exchange in Matale can only be undertaken by Government. Therefore a meeting of the Committee was held at the Rest House when it was proposed to ask Government what the minimum number of subscribers required would be for the erection of an exchange at Matale Town, and also what would be the minimum number of subscribers required for the erection of sub-exchange at Ukuwella, Rattota and Mahawella.

In reply to this query the following reply was received:—

CEYLON TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT AND TELEPHONES.

Colombo, August 15th, 1914.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the minimum number of paying subscribers required for the establishment of a Government Telephone Exchange at Matale will be 10.

2. As regards the other places, exchanges might be found to be warranted for smaller number of subscribers, but this would depend upon the positions of the subscribers. The rates in each case would be the same. If particulars can be given of the probable subscribers in each case approximate rentals would be quoted to you and an indication given whether exchanges would be justified. The scheme would, of course, be subject to Government consent, and as the estimate for next financial year have already been passed it would not be practicable to undertake the work of erecting the Exchanges or providing trunk communication until after October, 1915.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. MORRISON,
Superintendent of Traffic.

Mr. BOND explained that he sent out 130 circular letters to which he received 57 replies, of which 32 were acceptances, 17 refusals, 8 indefinite, of which 6 may probably accept.

The acceptances up to date are:

10 within Local Board Limits.

6 for Rattota Exchange.

9 for Mahawella Exchange.

3 for Ukuwella Exchange.

10 for Matale Exchange.

From these figures it will be seen, for the main exchange at Matale, the required number of subscribers are forthcoming, whilst the replies for the sub-Exchange are also satisfactory. But from the above correspondence it will be seen nothing can be done before October, 1915, as Government have already passed the estimates for the next financial year.

Mr. HORSFALL wished to be enlightened as to the cost of erection of lines.

Mr. BOND: It depends chiefly on the mileage.

Mr. LE FEVRE wished to know if only six estates have joined for the Rattota Exchange.

Mr. BOND: I have six acceptances, but have not received replies from others.

Mr. HORSFALL: The number of subscribers should be known as it depends on the number to decide if a particular sub-Exchange is justified.

The CHAIRMAN: We are largely indebted to Mr. Bond for getting us the figures and particulars and I hope that soon we will be having Telephones System in the district.

ROADS.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the District Engineer, Matale, forwarding an extract from the "Government Gazette" intimating that the Passara-Madulsima road is suitable for use of motor lorries subject to their compliance with the regulations relating to motor vehicles.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

On this subject the following letter was read:—

Avondale Road,
Colombo, September 9th, 1914.

To J. F. W. BROCKMAN,
Owilikande, Matale.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to enquire from your goodself whether you require the services of forwarding Agent to transport goods by means of a motor lorry. My rates are 75 cents a ton per mile including agency fees, &c.

I shall feel greatly obliged to you sir, if you will kindly put me on to another member of your Association in case you do not require.

Awaiting receipt of an early reply.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully..

(Signed) THOMAS PEIRIS.

The CHAIRMAN submitted this to the notice of the members who may avail themselves of motor transport if they are inclined to favour same.

RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN said that at the last three meetings of the Association the General Manager of the Railways had been written to requesting him to connect the two o'clock evening train from Colombo with the last train to Matale from Kandy, but this has not been done yet. He proposed writing again and asking the General Manager to do so.

LABOUR.

There was nothing to be said on this subject but

Mr. BIGGS said he wished to inform those present that a native gentleman had taken on three of his notice coolies.

Mr. GORTON wished to know if it was necessary to announce this fact.

Mr. BIGGS thought that though the law did not prevent any one taking on notice coolies, yet he thought the information he gave will be useful to those in the district.

THE CRISIS.

On the proposition of the CHAIRMAN the meeting went into Committee to consider the next item on the agenda:—"The war as affecting the planting interest." The deliberation lasted about fifteen minutes, and the subject was fully thrashed out.

At the end of the discussion Mr. Dan Joseph speaking on village labour said that large numbers of villagers are available for work in the district. He therefore thought the wages of 40 cents for male and 30 cents for female very reasonable, and that if all the planters combined to stick to this rate it would be beneficial to the planting Community.

J.P., U.P.M., FOR MATALE EAST.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the Assistant Government Agent had asked them to recommend an acting

appointment in place of Mr. W. J. Westland as J.P. and U.P.M., for Matale-East as the latter had been mobilised.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was decided in Committee to submit the name of Mr. C. J. Hutchinson.

Carried unanimously.

THE DEATH RATE ON ESTATES.

The CHAIRMAN read a letter from Government calling the attention of planters to the death rates on estates and urging the necessity of following instructions as regards (1) checking the spread of anchylostomiasis, (2) providing midwives and otherwise helping in child-births and nursing of children, (3) and other sanitary rules.

PRINCE OF WALES'S WAR FUND.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that a public meeting was held last Tuesday when members of the Association were appointed on the Committee to collect subscriptions and as they represented every part of the district and were appointed as representatives of the Association he thought it superfluous for the Association to do anything more than request the members to contribute towards this laudable object and send their contributions to those representatives referred to and not to the Hon. Secretary, and the former will forward the money to the proper quarters.

This was agreed to.

Mr. H. J. C. HORSFALL suggested holding a Gymkhana Meet with a view to augmenting the fund.

Mr. BOND seconded.

The CHAIRMAN said that that subject might be discussed at a meeting to be held for the purpose when he thought Mr. Horsfall's endeavour would meet with the support it deserved.—Agreed.

THE GIFT OF CEYLON TEA.

The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of the members to the movement to send a gift of Ceylon tea to the families of the Naval and Military forces. He had no doubt they knew about it. The gift would be either tea in bulk or cases for the purchase of tea. In the case of anyone sending tea such packages should be sent to the Chamber of Commerce and should be marked "Ceylon Tea Gift" and bear the gross and nett weights of package. Such packages will be conveyed free over the C.G.R. In cases of those not able to send tea, they can subscribe to the "Gift" by sending cash which will be devoted to buy tea and pay freight thereon.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS ON THE COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN said: Before we elect members to the vacant places necessitated by the retirement of Mr. Jas. Anderson I wish to propose a resolution that we record our thanks of the Association to Mr. Jas. Anderson for his valuable services to the district in carrying on the onerous

uties in the different capacities, which he had to give up owing to his departure from the Island consequent on his retirement from active work.

Passed unanimously.

The following were appointed:—

Hospital visitor for Matale district—Mr. John A. M. Bond.

Kandy Committee—Mr. E. M. Biggs.

Member of the Matale P. A. Committee—Mr. C. P. Anderson.

As there was another vacancy caused in the Kandy Committee by the departure Home of Mr. H. D. Garrick, Mr. John A. M. Bond was elected for this place.

PLANT PESTS BOARD.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Assistant Government Agent asking them to appoint three members to the Plant Pests Board for the triennial period commencing December 1st, 1914, in the place of the present members Messrs. H. Storey, W. Lyall, H. D. Garrick and J. A. Miles.

The following were duly elected to represent the association on the Board:—Messrs. H. S. Cameron, J. F. K. Brockman and Gerald Abott.

EXCISE.

The HON. SECRETARY read the resolution from the Sabaragamuwa Association.

The CHAIRMAN thought it a good idea and the meeting unanimously agreed to support the resolution.

With the usual vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated.

MATURATA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of a general meeting of the Maturata Planters' Association held at the Gonakelle Pavilion on Saturday, September 19th, at 2 p.m. Present: Messrs. T. H. Williams, (Chairman), D. Lyall, G. H. Baird, C. F. S. Shaw, E. B. Robinson, H. Allen, E. Y. Brooksbank and A. N. Paine (Hon. Secretary.)

Read letter from Mr. R. K. Bowie regretting being unable to attend the meeting.

H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES'S FUND.

The CHAIRMAN said: I wish to say a few words in connection with the Prince of Wales's War Fund. Since we last met here we have been plunged into the most terrible war that the world has ever known and many at Home are in the greatest need of our help. I think that the very poor response that has been made to the call for aid is nothing but a disgrace to this rich colony. My proposal today is that subscriptions be promised at this meeting and that the money can be paid either at the moment or by monthly payment or by one instalment, say before the end of the current year. Many of us have been caught short of the "ready" and with the best intentions in the world we are

not in the position to write a cheque for a substantial sum, but that is not the slightest reason why we should not save as much as we possibly can during the next few months by denying ourselves the luxuries to which many of us have been so long used. Some of us have offered our services to our King and Country, and we heard a few days ago that the Ceylon Contingent is to be sent to Egypt; may they be sent to the front is the wish, I am sure, of all of us and we wish them all God-speed. (Applause). I would ask you gentlemen not to look on this subscription as one to an ordinary charity, but to give in a generous spirit to support those in our Mother country who are in dire distress owing to this terrible war. I should like to say a word about that which must seem to us all a most absurd restriction. I mean the limiting of the donation to Rs. 1,000; why this was done those in authority know best, but it makes us compare in a very unfavourable light with our rich neighbours in India who have given their lakhs; up to yesterday Ceylon had not yet subscribed one lakh. Have we not in Ceylon our rich native landowners who have made their fortunes under British rule? Is it not up to them to emulate the spirit shown by their wealthy brothers in India? Do they, I wonder, consider that, had Ceylon been a German Crown colony, as events are now shaping, it would almost inevitably be claimed by the winning side to pay part of the enormous indemnity bill. I consider that the limit which has been put on the donation is very much to be deplored and with that I feel quite sure you will all agree. (Applause). Gentlemen, I ask you all to give today as freely as you possibly can and to think of the thousands of widows and sisters of the brave defenders of our country who are in great distress at Home. (Applause).

Mr. BAIRD said that all unmarried volunteers should offer themselves for active service.

A list was then circulated and Rs. 2,250 promised.

The Sabaragamuwa resolution was supported by most of those present but it was left for the Parent P.A.

A Committee of five Messrs. Lyall, Shaw, Robinson, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary, three to form a quorum, was formed to fix the monthly price to be charged for rice, the Committee to meet once every two months.

Read letter from Udapussellawa P.A., which was unanimously not supported.

Resolution from Pundaluoya P.A. was read.

Mr. PAINE next said that he had twice written the P.E., P.W.D., Kandy, asking for information as to when the new bridge on the Ellamulle Padiyapallella road was likely to be erected; he had been unable to get any reply so far, and it was unanimously decided that the Hon. Secretary be asked to write again and to request the avour of an early reply.

Another member said that the estate contributions had been increased considerably, and that little or no work had been done on the road.

There being no other business the meeting terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the chair.

A. N. PAINE,

Hon. Secretary.

KELANI VALLEY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Kelani Valley P. A. was held at the Club at Taldua on Saturday, the 19th September, 1914, preceded by a Committee meeting. Mr. L. Bayly presided and there were also present Messrs. J. M. Mackenzie, R. W. Bell, F. Murray, P. Byrde, C. S. Jones, R. H. C. Edwards, A. Cochrane, F. Duncan, A. J. Davis, G. Loughnam, T. H. Newall, H. B. Wade, N. W. Bentley Buckle, F. R. A. Brown, T. C. Munro, B. H. Stephenson, C. Bouchier, C. Hutchinson, A. Watt, A. D. G. Burnett, V. H. Stent, L. Buyers, J. W. Mortimer, P. M. Daubeny, H. Murray, B. S. Startling, P. J. M. Box, J. H. Wynell Mayow, L. Holbeck, C. L. Tivy, F. Heaseman, A. H. Jones, R. Brown, and J. C. Mitchell, Hon. Secretary.

CONFIRMATION OF RULES.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the first business was to confirm the alterations to rules 2, 6, 7 and 24. The rules had been passed by the Committee meeting and had been passed by the previous general meeting. They had to be confirmed by two general meetings. He proposed that they now be confirmed.

This was carried.

APPOINTMENTS.

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. J. M. Mackenzie had been appointed in place of Mr. J. F. Elford on the following Committees:—Committee member K. V. P. A., member of the District Road Committee, Waga, representative on the Kandy Committee for the K.V.P.A., and member for the Excise Advisory Committee, Colombo district. Messrs. P. Byrde and A. C. Cunningham had been appointed members of the Plant Pest Board, Colombo district, in place of Messrs. W. S. Jeffreson and E. M. Byrde respectively.

The appointments were confirmed.

CATTLE TRESPASS ON ROADS.

The Hon. SECRETARY announced receipt of letter from Mr. Hutchinson regarding cattle trespass on Colombo roads.

In the course of his letter dated June 19th, Mr. Hutchinson said: I should be glad to know whether Government cannot be asked to take some strong measures to keep the cattle, pigs and goats from using the main road to Colombo as a farm yard. Surely it is not difficult for them to enforce some rule.

The Hon. SECRETARY then communicated with the secretary of the Automobile Club of Ceylon, and a letter was received from him that he was taking up the matter immediately.

The Government Agent was also communicated with, and in a second letter Mr. Hutchinson stated: Regarding cattle trespass if Government would allow a conviction or

fine to be levied on all villagers or owners of cattle when the following information is sent them I think this trouble would stop: Send to the Government Agent of the district (1) register number on the cow, (2) nearest mile post, date and time. (3) whether loose or tied up. It is impossible to stop this cattle trespass otherwise, and I would add that such information sent to the Government Agent be sufficient for him to impose a fine each time. If this was known and a few fines inflicted more care would be taken. I do not think it would be possible to get the villagers to fence in the lands bounding the road with wire, or if this was done I fear it would not last.

Mr. HUTCHINSON said in the letter from the Government Agent he asked them if they could suggest a method whereby cattle owners could be immediately brought to book for letting their cattle be unattended. His suggestion was very much after the lines adopted by Mr. Alexander when he was Government Agent of Ratnapura. He said if they found cattle on the road absolutely unattended and they simply named the mile, date, etc., that would be sufficient. There was no country in the world where they would find the roads turned into farm yards as they were in Ceylon. Some law, some remedy must be found. It was most annoying and was often done with the object of annoyance, for the villagers hated cars.

The CHAIRMAN: Since these letters have gone in Government have taken some notice of it. The Automobile Club of Ceylon have also taken some notice of it, so I think Mr. Hutchinson's letters have reaped some benefit. I think we ought to thank Mr. Hutchinson for bringing the matter up and having it ventilated. (Hear, hear).

SABARAGAMUWA EXCISE RESOLUTION.

The now well-known Sabaragamuwa resolution regarding Excise was read to the meeting, with what were described as brief explanations of the proposals.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that this letter with the brief —(laughter)—explanations be laid on the table for any member who wished to peruse them. The object of the proposals was that Superintendents should in a way supervise arrack taverns. If any gentleman wished to aspire to visiting arrack taverns, if he would get up and say a few words they would be pleased to hear him. Instead of having to supervise them he thought they wanted to have the arrack taverns as far away from the estate as possible instead of having it so that they could "V. A." it. (Hear, hear). This matter was having the consideration of the Parent Association and he thought they might very well leave it in their hands. In the meantime they put it on the table if anybody cared to go through it. It had been published in the Press.

MEDICAL WANTS ORDINANCE.

The Hon. SECRETARY announced the receipt of three copies of the Medical Wants Ordinance. He mentioned that most dispensaries had been supplied with a copy and that he had written and asked for 126 copies to be circulated.

ised among their members. In the meantime there were three copies if any member had not read it at all. They would probably get the copies he had asked for in due course.

DANGER POSTS.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the Automobile Club of Ceylon had sent down two danger posts to be erected at any danger spots they had. Their Committee had considered the matter, and it had been suggested they should erect them at the railway bridge just beyond Talduwa turn off. If any member had any other suggestion to make they would be pleased to consider it. Everybody knew the place, and signposts here would be very beneficial to motorists.

There being no further suggestions the proposal was agreed to.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S FUND.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the consideration of the list for the Prince of Wales's Fund which had been sent to them by Mr. John Still of Kandy. It was only right that lists should be circulated in this district to members of the Association. At a time like the present everybody ought to give with an open hand. Every club in the island was giving and also the various associations. Although they had no funds available, the funds they had being small and only for necessary things such as stationery, etc., he would like to propose that the District P. A. do canvass for the list and that donations be sent in as from members of the Association. The Secretary would send a circular to every member of the Association, the member could give whatever he liked and it would be sent in as a lump sum as from that Association. (Hear, hear).

A MEMBER said he understood the A. G. A. has already circularised the district.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought this might be circulated to the members of the Association. He thought it would be a good thing for a subscription to go in from the members of the Association.

Mr. HUTCHINSON: I think it ought to be supported.

The proposition to circularise the members was then unanimously carried.

THE CRISIS.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the next business was the consideration of the scheme which had been circularised among the members regarding the crisis and its effect on the district. He thought this was not a matter that should be published and proposed that they go into Committee to consider it.

The meeting decided to go into Committee and after a long discussion it was decided that the scheme should be cancelled, there not being unanimity among the members as to its operation.

SPECIAL CONSTABLES.

The following circular was announced from the A. G. A. :—

It has been suggested that there is a possibility of trouble on estates and elsewhere arising from various causes due to the present situation. In order to be in a position to deal with any such disturbances as promptly as possible, it may be necessary to enrol special constables. I should, therefore, be glad if you would send me a list of all planters in your district with their addresses who could be enrolled as special constables if necessity arose. On the first apprehension of any trouble, of which I should be informed at once, I will issue the necessary appointments as special constables. In case of an urgent necessity and if it could be more convenient the nearest J. P. should be approached. Any J. P., D. M. O. or D. J. has the power to appoint special constables.

The CHAIRMAN announced that they had a large number of planters who had come forward in that district to be enrolled and they were still open to take more. He proposed with their permission to send in this list of special constables to the Government Agent should it be necessary to utilise their services.

A MEMBER asked what were the duties of the special constables.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the A. G. A. had not told them this. He supposed they would do their best to quell any riot, and do their best generally.

FREE FREIGHT FOR RICE AND ESTATE PRODUCE.

The HON. SECRETARY announced the receipt of the following resolution from Mr. Wynell Mayow :—"That owing to the increased cost of rice and also to the low market now ruling for tea and rubber due to the present crisis the Government be asked to reduce the rail freight on rice, tea and rubber during the war, or until the present depressed market conditions revert to a normal state."

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. Wynell Mayow had conferred with the Committee on his subject and wished this matter to be dealt with at some future date.

Mr. MAYOW agreed that this was so and the matter was deferred.

TELEPHONES.

A letter was read from Mr. HUTCHINSON asking that this matter be brought up at the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said that at this present time it seemed rather inopportune to approach Government on an expenditure like this. From information he had had he understood it would be advisable to let the matter stand over for the

time being. He thought they might well let it stand over, for it was hardly the time to ask Government to take the matter up.

Mr. HUTCHINSON asked if it might be added in the estimates for 1916, otherwise they might be left absolutely in the lurch. He acknowledged that at the present time they had no earthly hope, but if they mentioned it in the estimates which had to be submitted for 1916 it was possible something might be done then. There was no harm in asking. The worst thing that could happen was an answer in the negative and the best one in the affirmative. There would be no harm done and they might benefit.

The CHAIRMAN: We might get a flat refusal and that would wash the matter out altogether. If we leave it alone, we might have some chance when matters get settled.

Mr. HUTCHINSON still thought there would be no harm in asking that it be included in the estimates and proposed: "That this Association consider it desirable to send forward proposals for the K. V. telephone scheme for consideration, and hope to get the work done in 1916."

Mr. MITCHELL seconded and it was carried.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

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[No 9

Editorial Notes

SINCE the last issue of the *Planting Gazette*, our Editor, John Still, has resigned his post and left for England to serve his country and we cannot let the occasion pass without wishing him farewell and good luck on behalf of the whole Planting Community.

Although Secretary of the Planters' Association for only a comparatively short period, that period has been one of advancement and expansion in every direction, to which he, in no small measure contributed by his enthusiasm and capabilities. Only those who have been associated with him in the production of the *Gazette* know how he worked to ensure that it should be a permanent record of all matters connected with the Planters' Association and it was always a source of regret to him that Planters did not make more use of the *Planting Gazette* to voice Planting opinion. The present efficient organization of the P.L.F. is probably his most noteworthy achievement and this and the expansion of the Ceylon Labour Commission have meant a large increase in the work and in the staff, and it is pleasant to be able to place on record—as showing the cordial relations that existed between him and his subordinates—the fact that before leaving he was presented by them with a pair of field-glasses.

Should, at the end of the war, John Still return to Ceylon no one will receive a warmer welcome from the host of friends he has left behind on whose behalf we wish him God-speed.

An account of the farewell banquet given by His Excellency the Governor to our Contingent prior to their departure for the front appears in this number.

It is in our opinion most unfortunate that no full account of this function has appeared in any of the local papers. We are not concerned with the reasons for this, but look at it from the broad standpoint that such an epoch

in the History of Ceylon as the departure of our brave Contingent should under no circumstances be allowed to pass unnoticed.

There are doubtless many hundreds in Ceylon, who, being unable to be present in Colombo on this occasion, were bitterly disappointed at finding no account in their paper of what had taken place, and it is on their behalf that we have attempted to supply that deficiency.

The speeches which we have reproduced are not verbatim, and we wish to express our thanks to His Excellency the Governor, and to Major Hall-Brown and Captain Stevenson for their generous assistance which has enabled us to record as accurately as is possible under the circumstances an account of what took place.

As we go to press the Contingent is about to leave our shores, and it only remains for us to wish them farewell and God-speed—our Soldiers—Brother-planters—Pals.

Farewell Banquet given by His Excellency The Governor to the Ceylon Contingent on the 19th October, 1914.

On Monday, the 19th ultimo, His Excellency the Governor entertained the members of the Ceylon Contingent at a banquet at the G. O. H. on the eve of their departure for England, and the function proved a brilliant success.

His Excellency arrived punctually at 8 p.m. attended by his A.D.C.'s Captain Nugent and Captain Greer, and was met in the Palm Court by the Officers of the Contingent and the following gentlemen who had been honoured by invitations:—Captain A. E. Andrews, Mr. J. T. Broom, the Hon. Mr. F. Bowes, the Hon. Mr. T. H. Chapman, Capt St. G. Caulfeild, Major T. Cockerill, the Hon. Mr. H. Creasy, Col. Dickson, Major M. F. Halford, Col. Hayward, the Hon. Mr. R. Hyshe-Eliot, Capt. W. Ettrick Horn, Mr. Hew Kennedy, Brigadier-General H. H. L. Malcolm, Major Balfour-Paul, the Hon. Mr. Wood Renton, the Hon. Mr. R. E. Stubbs, Col. Sinclair, and Mr. T. L. Villiers.

After greeting his guests a move was made to the spacious dining Hall which had been specially decorated for the occasion and where the Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Contingent, to avoid unnecessary confusion, were already assembled at table.

On arriving at the dining table His Excellency, who had on his right Major Hall-Brown, and on his left Capt. Stevenson, pronounced the short Latin Grace "Benedictus. Benedicat."

The Menu was as follows:—

MENU.

HORS D'OEUVRES.

CONSOMME ROYAL.

FILLETS OF FISH, TARTAR SAUCE.

POULET SAUTE EN CASSEROLE.

TOURNEDOS NIVERNAISE.

COLD TURKEY AND HAM, SALAD.

ASPARAGUS. SAUCE VINAIGRETTE.

FRUIT SALAD.

SOURSOP ICE CREAM.

DESSERT.

COFFEE.

Great credit reflects on the management of the G.O.H. for the excellent repast which they provided, to which ample justice was done by all present, the waiting especially leaving nothing to be desired.

The Hall Orchestra was in attendance and played an excellent selection of patriotic and other music, in which the Contingent and others heartily joined.

The greatest conviviality prevailed throughout the dinner, and when the Band were occasionally taking breath the gathering gave vent to their irrepressible spirits by singing songs, such as "It's a long way to Tipperary," and what appears to have become the Contingent song, which makes up in quantity for its possible defects in quality!

As the dinner proceeded the crowds of spectators in the galleries assumed very large numbers including many ladies whose beautiful dresses greatly added to what was already a very brilliant scene, and one which will ever remain in the memory of those who were fortunate enough to witness it.

At the close of the dinner His Excellency proposed the Loyal Toast of "The King" which was most reverently received, every one present replying with the time honoured prayer: "The King—God bless him!"

After a short interval His Excellency again rose amidst loud and prolonged cheers and said:

Major Hall-Brown and Gentlemen:

It has never yet been my privilege to be host to so many guests at once as I rejoice to see here tonight. My only regret is that I could not dine you all in Queen's House, but even the ample space there is not ample enough for so strong a Contingent of honoured guests, and therefore I was constrained to entertain you here in the G.O.H., which, I need hardly remind you—as students of our newspapers—, under purely British management and anxious to rise to the occasion like all true Britishers at this juncture. But as the acoustic properties of this room are not adapted for speeches being heard, I will ask not only the Contingent but also the numerous occupants of the galleries round to be so good as to help us by being as quiet as circumstances allow.

Now, Major and gentlemen, while those of the Contingent have always been with me in my thoughts, I have been tied by duty to Colombo, and so have never been able, before today, to see you in your corporate capacity or to have the opportunity till now of speaking with you face to face. I have that opportunity now, and I purpose first to tell you something or two about yourselves and your telegraphic history as a Contingent.

On the 9th of August, I told the Colonial Office that while Col. Biddulph could enlist Ceylon men in London I had under consideration the question of a Contingent from the Island itself. Let me here say how keen is the satisfaction with which we all heard that Col. Biddulph (loud cheers) had been taken at once for the active service for which that keen soldier was pining.

As regards this Contingent from Ceylon, my aim from the outset was to give Ceylon men the earliest possible chance of helping the mother country, and for helping the mother country I wanted trained men—disciplined men—who were not only armed but knew how to use their rifles as a fighting unit. So on the 14th of August I telegraphed an offer of a Contingent of 300, which (if desired) might include 100 mounted men; and, in order to be ready, I announced publicly here that there would be a Contingent from Ceylon, and put the machinery in motion to get the men up to Diyatalawa, before the rains set in, for a strenuous training such as had not been dreamed of in the normal volunteer camps. By this means I looked to despatch a picked body of men who would not only do Ceylon credit but would utilise our training resources here so as to save the mother country the task of training additional raw recruits in England. Let me here record my obligation to Col. Fell, the Commandant of the Ceylon Volunteer Force (prolonged cheers.) At my request that fine soldier cheerfully and enthusiastically undertook to go up in person and train all who should respond to my appeal. To him and to Capt. Stevenson (loud cheers) you will all join with me in expressing warmest gratitude.

You of the Contingent have had the inestimable benefit of receiving at their accomplished and willing hands a strenuous training, which I venture to assert has not been surpassed for any like unit within the same time anywhere in His Majesty's Empire (cheers).

But to return to your history, it was not till the 10th of September that I received the expression of the Army Council's gratitude for "Ceylon's patriotic offer" of the 14th of August, with an intimation of the readiness of the War Office to accept a Contingent to serve in Egypt. This I hastened to communicate first of all to the persons concerned, viz., yourselves, and on the 13th of September a telegram was received from you, Major Hall-Brown, saying, "Announcement received with cheers, every man willing to go" (loud cheers). I knew you would take that line, but what you on your side did not then know was that as soon as I had got your telegram I telegraphed home pressing that our double Company, consisting as I said of men of the officer class, should go not to Egypt but to England (cheers).

On the 18th of September the Colonial Office sent me a hint that more satisfactory arrangements were in prospect and on the 24th I was informed by Mr. Harcourt of the decision that the Contingent should go to England (loud cheers). This time I did not wait to consult you before expressing my gratification and saying that the Contingent, which was meanwhile under hard training, would be ready by the middle of October. And so you are.

At this point I asked Col. Fell to come down again to Colombo and gave him a letter to read to you on parade, telling you the news and adding that I hoped you will all be as pleased as I was. Here is Col. Fell's telegram of the 27th of September from Diyatalawa after he had read you my letter, "News of destination received with wild enthusiasm. Contingent desire to thank His Excellency for all he has done on their behalf, strength today 213" (cheers). Mark the last last words about strength being 213, that is to say, nearly up to full. My letter would not have been read to you if success had not been already attained on previous prospects, which did not extend further than Egypt, for I was determined to make the news about England a reward and not a bribe (cheers).

Well, when I knew numbers were right and when you had first been informed of the good news, I made it public, and you became the envy of every totum.

It remained to get you aboard a ship for Home, a task which as Mr. Bowes and I have reason to know, was none too easy. When we had arranged with the Bibby Co., whose local representatives met us fairly, I had to arrange for an escort, for I could not run any risk with a human freight so dear to Ceylon. In the end, on my making representations to home Mr. Harcourt, helpful as ever, made everything right for us; and you will see what you will see (loud laughter.)

It was at this peculiarly delicate juncture that by a silence which you will now understand I pained irresponsible counsellors who clamoured for a frank publicity, which would have given everything away. An old master of mine in public affairs used to thank heaven for the creation and preservation of what he called the "howling dervishes of politics," because they unerringly pointed out the road not to follow; but he was not speaking of our beloved Ceylon (laughter.)

To complete your brief but spirited history it remains only to be added that by a unanimous vote the Legislative Council (at the instance of unofficial members) patriotically resolved to bear the whole cost of your initial equipment and transport, and of your pay and allowances during your period of service. So I assured His Majesty's Government that this Island would delight to find the money for you, even as the great overseas Dominions are finding the money for their Contingents, and thus relieve the mother country of any financial burden for your maintenance while serving Ceylon and the Empire (cheers). Such in bald outline is your telegraphic history.

Now what may I say to supplement it in proposing the Toast of the Contingent and in wishing you God-speed? First and foremost this, that Ceylon may well be proud of her Contingent (cheers), a Contingent, which that excellent judge Colonel Fell told me he believed would be the best on the ground, and that your future General could tell this at a glance by looking at your faces. I did this for myself when I inspected today, and a hard-bitten lot you looked. It did me good to see ranks composed of such gallant gentlemen, disciplined, confident and resolute; yes, resolute. If I were to choose a single word to express the British mood, I should choose just that word and say that the United Kingdom and the United Empire was resolute. We are not a demonstrative people; we are not given to brag; we know that there is a stiff job in front of us; but we know we are fighting for the finest cause that ever led to England's drawing the sword (cheers). In the cause of righteousness and of the world's civilisation we do not belittle our enemy, but we are even more confident in ourselves, and in our gallant allies and our cause. We shall earn victory, you will earn it I know well, because you came forward in the cheerful spirit of duty, asking no questions, seeking no reward, except to serve a noble cause as privates in the Island's ranks, ready to go wherever you were needed (loud cheers).

Major Hall Brown, you may well be proud of your men as Ceylon is proud of them (loud cheers). They will uphold their own and Ceylon's credit in whatever task is set before them, and our prayers and hopes will always be with you as you tread the path of duty at Home as you have trodden it here. I have but two sons, one of whom many here know, and he got to the front on the 8th of September, and the other, who is a territorial subaltern, is hoping to get to the

front almost at once. When you go I shall feel with pride that I have got not two but over 230 sons fighting England's battles.

With the toast of the Ceylon Contingent, I couple the names of your Commanding Officer, Major Hall Brown, who will remain with you, and of your Adjutant, Capt. Stevenson, whom you must look to lose, and whose resignation I shall be very happy—for his sake, though not ours—to accept the moment he sets foot in England and can rejoin his regiment.

I give you the toast of the Contingent coupled with those two gallant names, and wish you one and all God-speed (loud cheers).

Major Hall Brown, whose popularity was evidenced by the enthusiastic reception accorded to him, replied as follows:—

Your Excellency:

If after dinner speaking is part of a soldier's education I am afraid mine has been sadly neglected, and I have a shrewd suspicion that the reason is that those who were teaching us our work are not much good at it themselves. I wish I could when called upon to make this speech reply as Capt. Stevenson did the other night by saying, "Gentlemen, I will drill you tomorrow morning at 6.45 (laughter). However, I am afraid this must not be, and I will begin by thanking Your Excellency for giving us this magnificent banquet on the eve of our departure for the front. I am sure that I am speaking for every member of the Contingent when I say that we thoroughly appreciate the honour you have done us. All along we have known how much you were doing for us, and we fully appreciate the fact, Sir, that but for you we might all of us still be pulling bangies off tea bushes (laughter).

I wish to record my thanks to the Colombo Agents for their assistance. Capt. Stevenson will bear me out when I say that we did not have a single refusal from them.

When we read in Home papers of the atrocities that are being perpetrated by these German barbarians, when we read, and know that it is true, that our nurses and doctors are returning to England with their hands cut off, and of the way in which the wounded are being treated, it must convince us of the fact that there is only one cure for this cancer in our midst, viz., the knife, the only way to deal with these savages is to annihilate them (loud cheers). To do this neither money nor men must be spared, and I think I am right in saying that the highest authorities are convinced that it will take every man that can be spared of every nation that are fighting these barbarians, to end the war in the way it must be ended. You too, Sir, have realised that fact, or we should not be here tonight, and we all of us feel it a great honour that we should be the chosen ones to go and fight for the Premier Crown Colony, and I think that had you seen us at work on the Patuas at Diyatalawa, you

would have said as all did say who saw us that any country, any nation would be proud to be represented by us, and I feel that it is a great honour that has fallen to my lot to be in command of such a fine body of men each and all of whom are playing the game (loud cheers). I think, Sir, you would have been very proud of your Contingent had you seen them at work, and more especially had you seen them this morning at 3 o'clock; out in the pouring rain, marching to the Station, shouldering their kit bags which contain all they possess possibly in the world till after the war (cheers). And when singing the praises of the members of this Contingent there is one member of it, at least we always look upon him as a member of the Contingent, though unfortunately he is not coming with us, I must not forget. That member is Capt. Horn (cheers). Without him I feel certain we would all have been poisoned long ago, and the marvelous things that he can do with an old piece of shoe leather would put the greatest conjuror to shame! (laughter).

We all too felt the departure of Col. Fell from amongst us. He is a fine man and a fine soldier (loud cheers), and I feel certain will make a mark for himself in the war, and may we be there with him to help him make it, is I feel certain the wish of every member of this Contingent (loud cheers).

Contingent Co. of the C. P. R. C., I ask you to rise and drink to the health of His Excellency the Governor, but for him we should not have been here tonight (loud cheers).

Captain Stevenson who, on rising, was received with vociferous applause, said:

Your Excellency:

You have asked me to tell the Contingent what I think of them. Well, Sir, they have heard nothing else for the last six weeks, so there is no necessity for me to repeat it again tonight! (laughter). I noted, however, that Your Excellency just now mentioned the word "Discipline." In the Manual of Military law, under which we are now serving, one of the early paragraphs on Discipline says that "all bodies of men without discipline are mobs and worse than useless." I am glad to be able to state to you, Sir, that the discipline which the Contingent have willingly learned during the last six weeks has fitted them to take their place in any unit, even a Regular Regiment (loud cheers).

At this juncture His Excellency rose and invited the spectators to mingle with their friends in the Contingent, an invitation which was very readily accepted, the dining Hall very soon presenting a crowded and brilliant scene, and at about midnight the Contingent lined up outside the G.O.H. and marched to the Jetty *en route* for their ship, accompanied by a vast and enthusiastic crowd of cheering friends and thus ended what was undoubtedly acknowledged to have been a most pleasant evening and an epoch in the Annals of Ceylon.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF THE CEYLON RUBBER RESEARCH SCHEME.

Minutes of a Meeting held at Peradeniya, Thursday, September 3rd, 1914.

Present:—Mr. R. N. Lyne, Director of Agriculture (Chairman), Mr. T. Petch (Botanist and Mycologist), Mr. H. Inglis, Mr. H. A. McLaren, Mr. G. H. Masefield, Mr. W. N. Tisdall and Mr. L. E. Campbell (Rubber Research Chemist), Secretary.

The Chairman called on the Rubber Research Chemist to report progress.

PROGRESS REPORT.

During July further samples were prepared in compliance with the extended scheme drawn up in January.

Two cases of samples have been consigned to the Imperial Institute.

The investigation of the seasonal varieties in the movements of plant food were being continued.

ISSUE OF BULLETINS.

Two Bulletins have now been issued on the subject of the effect of tapping on food storage in Hevea.

A third has now been prepared on the "Seasonal Variations in movements of plant food in Hevea Brasiliensis." Printer's proof copies of the Bulletin were laid before the meeting for consideration, and were afterwards circulated amongst all Members of the Committee.

TITLE OF BULLETINS.

Mr. Lyne drew attention to the heading of the bulletins:—"The Ceylon Rubber Research Scheme," and remarked that the word "Scheme" appeared to him to be unsuitable. After discussion it was resolved that Minutes of the Meeting which decided on this title be circulated amongst Members for their consideration as to the desirability of recommending the Parent Committee to alter the word "Scheme."

REPORT FROM PROFESSOR DUNSTAN.

An interim report was received from Professor Dunstan with regard to the results of vulcanisation tests on a number of samples received from the Rubber Research Chemist.

Professor Dunstan wrote that this report should be treated as private and for the Committee's consideration only. It should not be printed as a large number of figures could be available shortly, which should afford a better basis of comparison.

Subscribers could, however, be informed that the report has been received and the general nature of the contents indicated.

It was resolved that the report be circulated amongst Members of the Committee and that a description of the general nature of the contents be prepared for Subscribers.

L. E. CAMPBELL,
Secretary.

Mandapam Camp,
Mandapam P.O.,
South India,
7th October, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
The Planters' Association,
Kandy.

SIR,

I have the honour to ask you to be so good as to notify in the next issue of the *Gazette* that I shall be glad if Estate Superintendents will send escorts for bolters immediately on receipt of the advice wire from me.

2. This Camp is much further away than Ragama and, on many occasions of late, escorts have arrived after the bolters have been forwarded under escort of my peons only as far as the Estate station.

3. My wire is always followed up by a confirmatory letter, and I note that it is only on receipt of this letter that the escort is sent.

Thanking you in anticipation.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
H. GORDON CRAN,
Superintendent, Mandapam Camp.

NOTICE.

A FORMS.

I should be glad if Superintendents would advise me immediately they wish any A. form cancelled or in cases where they issue a fresh A. form on information received from the holder that the original A. form has been lost, as on receipt of such advice all my Agents are circularised and payments stopped accordingly. In no case should new A. forms be forwarded direct to kanganyes at their request without notification being made to this Commission of such action, as in the absence of such notification there is nothing to prevent the kangany or cooly who intends to defraud from securing payments on both A. forms and this has been done in one or two instances of late.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON.
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

NOTICE.**Tickets on the Railway.**

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kanganies proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.**A Forms.**

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September, 1913.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution Referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,

Trichinopoly,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
14th October, 1913.

NOTICE.

Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th January, 1913.

Coast Agency Cess.

"That three reminders only be sent out—viz. one each in January, February and March and that the Ceylon

Labour Commissioner shall be instructed to refuse assistance to any estate which has not paid its subscription by the end of March. This to be notified in the *Planters' Gazette*."

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.**Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee, held on Friday, 8th May, 1914.**

RESOLVED:—

"That in future instances of Estates which are already subscribers to the Coast Agency endeavouring to assist non-subscribing estates, the following procedure be adopted:—

First, the Superintendent to be written to,

Second, the Agents or proprietor,

Third, the Estate Agents' Association, and failing satisfaction, the offending Estates' subscription shall be refused in future."

NOTICE.**Tuticorin Forwarding Agency.**

The opening of the new Indo-Ceylon Railway connection via Polgahawella and Dhanushkodi having diverted the greater part of the coolie traffic from the Colombo-Tuticorin route, notice is hereby given to Estates concerned that the Tuticorin Forwarding Agency will be closed on July 8th to be re-opened at Dhanushkodi so soon as pending arrangements are completed of which due notice will be given.

This notice does not include the Colombo Establishment which will be kept open.

NOTICE.**Guntur Agency.**

On page 408 of the July 1914 issue of the *Planting Gazette*, line eleven, Guntakal should read Guntur.

It has since been decided to retain this Agency until the end of 1914.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,

Planters' Association of Ceylon

NOTICE.

The heavy reduction in coolies passing through the Ammapatam Agency during the last six months indicates that advantage is being taken of the new railway route and it has therefore been necessary to open an Agency at Arantangi, the terminus of the South Indian Railway in the Tanjore District. The Agency at Ammapatam has been closed from September 1st. Superintendents are kindly requested not to issue A. Forms on Ammapatam Agency in future, but to refer kanganies to Arantangi.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,

Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.

It will be seen from the usual statistics appended that recruiting shows a very serious decrease during the month of September, 5,883 coolies having been recruited as against 9,228 in the previous year. The total figures for 1914 for the nine months amount to 62,290 as against 81,911, showing a total decrease approximating 20,000. This very serious falling off in recruiting can be attributed almost entirely to the effect the European War is having on Ceylon itself, bringing about, as it has done in many quarters, practically a stoppage of all recruiting.

In the recruiting Districts themselves most absurd rumours are prevalent with regard to the war, and the situation was further aggravated by the visit of the "Emden" to Madras. Many ridiculous stories are being brought into the country by Kanganies themselves on arrival from Ceylon. One instance that came to my notice was that of a Kanganie from Ceylon who, on arrival at the Trichinopoly Depot, stated to an admiring audience of newly recruited labour that he had personally witnessed the "bombardment of Nuwara Eliya" by the all-famous "Emden." The object of the Kanganie was, no doubt, to obtain cheap notoriety and to pose somewhat as a hero, but it is a concrete instance of what is happening all over India and it will be appreciated how difficult it is to overtake such false and misleading information once it obtains a start. The sudden cessation of recruiting by many estates (many of whom have, I am glad to say, since cancelled these instructions) lent colour to those silly rumours, and the situation was further aggravated by the necessity to temporarily curtail automatic overdrafts until financial conditions in the Colony were more clearly ascertained.

I have endeavoured, as far as possible, to counteract the serious effect caused by these baseless rumours, by the distribution throughout the recruiting Districts of handbills, with the object of reassuring the coolie classes. I have no doubt, that if this propaganda is carried out energetically that when trade resumes its normal course, coolies will proceed to Ceylon as heretofore, and Penang recruiting for the time being a dead letter, advantage to Ceylon should accrue.

It will be seen by the usual statement appended that the falling off is fairly general throughout the Agencies of this Commission. The **Telugu Circle** is practically at a stand-still, and, although labour might be obtained from these Districts, there are no recruiters operating on the Agencies. The **Arcoot Circle** shows a very serious falling off indeed and it is most marked at Chingleput and Villupuram; similarly, the Salem Circle with the exception of Turaiyur, which for some reason or other difficult to explain, shows a very substantial increase on the same month last year. Musiri, an adjoining Agency, shows a serious drop. In the **Headquarters Circle**, Cannanore gives a slight increase; Palghat is practically the same as the same month of 1913. The Head Agency of Trichinopoly reflects faith-

fully the position of the recruiting Districts as a whole, as many Kanganies come direct to this depot. The improvement in Manaparai may be attributed to the fact that this Agency has been re-opened for the payment of A. Forms and cannot be taken as a true indication of actual conditions in that District. The falling off at Tanjore may be somewhat discounted by the figures of Arantangi, which is no doubt taking some coolies away from the former Agency. In the **Madura Circle** the decline is not so heavy at Madura as elsewhere owing to unsatisfactory crop conditions. Tinnevely is still falling away, and it is in this district where rumours have been spread with greater energy than elsewhere, mostly it is reported by coolies returning from Colombo. The figures of Tondi Agency are a direct indication that this Coastal Agency has now served its purpose, and with the closing of the existing Ceylon Emigration Camp, will become useless as far as this Commission is concerned and the District will be better served by an Agency at Ramnad.

The report of the results of recruiting for the present year is not very satisfactory reading, but until the outbreak of war there was every indication that the last few months would show substantial improvement on those of last year, bringing the total figures up to what was a record year as far as this Commission is concerned.

Pre-Advance and Estate Overdrafts.

Superintendents should note that, although in special cases overdrafts may be temporarily allowed in order to facilitate the despatch of coolies and to avoid delay and consequent expense, they cannot be permitted for the purpose of paying pre-advances to Kanganies and coolies. When an A. Form is issued for a pre-advance amount, Superintendents should take steps to ensure a lodgment of funds for the payment of the A. Form, as unless this is done the payment of pre-advance must be delayed until sufficient money is placed to the Estate's credit.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Salem Circle.

SALEM AGENCY:—(Statistical Returns). There has been a very heavy decrease in the last two months which has been due to good rain and the excellent condition of crops. The general decrease in the year is also attributed to the rush to Penang during the first half of the year.

PROSPECTS OF RECRUITING:—These are not good at present as crops are in such a good state and there has been plenty of rain. Recruiting is likely to be slack for the next few months as all available labour is engaged in the fields and Kanganies complain that they cannot get any coolies on this account.

NANJANGUD AGENCY:—(Statistical Returns). The increase of 198 Kanganies and coolies this year is attributed to a very much larger number of Kanganies coming over this

year to recruit, and also to the fact that this Agency was only opened in February last year and the Bangalore Agency has been closed for the whole of this year.

(PROSPECTS OF RECRUITING):—There seems to have been very little rain and the crops are in a bad state in Chambrajnagar, Gundlupet and Ellandur and T. Narasipur Taluqs, and I am informed that the coolies in these parts are very keen on emigrating to Ceylon. In Nanjangud, Seerangapatam, Yedatore, Nagamangalam and Mandiya, they are afraid to emigrate to Ceylon and only want to go to the Nilgiris. There seems to have been plenty of rain round Nanjangud lately and the river and streams have plenty of water.

KUPPAM AGENCY:—(Statistical Returns). The fall in coolies this year is said to be due to a large number of Kanganies, who hitherto frequented this Agency when it was at Bangalore, going to Nanjangud to register their coolies, as is evidenced from this rise of Nanjangud Agency figures. None of the Kanganies registering here recruit near Kuppam but in Mysore State near Bangalore.

PROSPECTS OF RECRUITING:—The prospects of recruiting around here are good and coolies are to be had if Kanganies will come and recruit them. The Agent reports that they are afraid to go to the neighbouring villages as they are frightened of the Police and villagers; hence all the Kanganies coming to this Agency recruit in their native places in Mysore, near Bangalore. There is very little work for the labourers in the fields at present but in another fifteen days or so there will not be much work for the next few months.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
October 8th, 1914.

HEADQUARTER AND MADURA CIRCLES.

DINDIGUL AGENCY:—(Statistical Returns).—Decrease in recruiting is ascribed to the fact that this year has been a prosperous year. The ragi, cholum and kambu have just been harvested. Cultivating for second crop and dry crops are proceeding.

MADURA AGENCY:—(Statistical Returns).—The large increase in the number of coolies passed through the Agency this year is primarily ascribed to famine conditions prevailing over nearly the whole district. There is practically no water in the tanks and canals, and even the lands under the Periar irrigation scheme are only giving a single crop. There is also little ragi and paddy under wells. The dry crop this year almost failed. There has been a little rain and ploughing has commenced for this year's dry crop. Rumours of war current through the district are said to have been responsible for the slight fall in the number of coolies registered this month. The stoppage of Tuticorin steamers has given colour to all sorts of absurd tales.

PROSPECTS OF RECRUITING depend entirely on the weather. If the rains fail this year, there will be a very large number of coolies available, especially if stoppage of recruiting for the Straits continues. There is not enough work at present for many coolies although the rates for those employed remain at from three to five annas a day. Owing to the high price of foodstuffs at Madura, this represents a very low wage.

TATAPARAI AGENCY:—(Statistical Returns).—There is a considerable decrease in local recruiting, not only due to the opening of the Mandapam route; and this is ascribed to the various scares that have arisen this year, firstly owing to the plague in Colombo and secondly owing to the war.

PROSPECTS OF RECRUITING:—Not at all good. The paddy harvest is in, and owing to light rain, the cultivation of dry crops is commencing. Notwithstanding the glut in cotton at Tuticorin, the cultivators will plant it again.

There are large number of boatmen and millhands out of employment in Tuticorin, and this number will probably increase as further mills close down as I hear they are likely to do. These coolies would be no use for estate work.

TINNEVELLY AGENCY:—(Statistical Returns).—Decrease is due primarily to the rumours attendant on the outbreak of plague in Colombo, to the stoppage of the Tuticorin steamer service and the rumours of war.

It is not likely that there will be a large number of recruits for the rest of the year unless rain fails. At present all available labour is getting in harvest, and will later cultivate the dry lands.

PROSPECTS OF RECRUITING:—These are not good. Harvesting is going on at present, and when that is completed and rain comes cultivation of dry crops will begin. Cotton will be planted again, as it is not known if other crops would flourish in the land previously given over to cotton.

The stoppage of Tuticorin steamers and the irregular manner in which the present steamer runs, tend to confirm the wildest rumours of the war.

PALGHAT AGENCY:—(Prospects of Recruiting).—These are decidedly good in this district although the paddy harvest is being at present taken in and preparations are being made for the sowing of a second crop. This applies more particularly to the immediate neighbourhood of Palghat, but as the West Coast is reached where coolies are more dependent on cocoanut industries, there is a large number of coolies available as mentioned in my special report on the subject. The local tile works employ 200 coolies.

CANNANORE AGENCY:—Prospects of Recruiting are decidedly good and a great many coolies around Cannanore are entirely dependent on cocoanut for livelihood and this source of income has been taken by them owing to the tremendous increase in prices caused by the war.

KARUR AGENCY:—Prospects of Recruiting are good. There has been an absence of rain and no land except that under irrigation and wells has been cultivated. Unless rain comes heavily in the next six weeks there will be no crop at all, and in many cases the harvest will be late and probably scanty. Half of the dry ground and ground under wells has been in groundnuts and many of them are now being dug. The failure of the groundnut market should give an opening for recruiting, but, of course, this depends on the length of the war, and the possibility of obtaining freight.

N. H. M. BOWDEN,

Deputy Commissioner.

October 5th, 1914.

List Showing Prices of Books, Forms and Maps procurable by Subscribers from Ceylon Labour Commission, Trichinopoly.

PARTICULARS.	R.	A.	P.
A. Form Books ...	4	10	0
B. Form Books ...	1	0	0
Fare and Meal Order Book ...	1	0	0
Postal Guide ...	0	4	0
S. I. & M. & S. M. Ry. Guides (each) ...	0	2	0
Plain C. L. C. Map, Madras Presidency ...	3	0	0
C. L. C. Map, varnished and mounted on Calico ...	4	0	0
C. L. C. Map with rollers (mounted on Calico and varnished) ...	5	0	0
Telugu Grammar by Henry Morris ...	8	3	0
Touring Maps—Book form size ...	2	12	0
Presidency Atlas (Madras) ...	5	0	0

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1914.

AGENCIES.			PREVIOUSLY.					SEPTEMBER.					TOTAL.		G. TOTAL	
HEADQUARTERS	CIRCLE:—	M.	W.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Infts.	
1.	Cannanore	255	17	2	3	277	43	3	0	0	46	298	20	2	3	323
2.	Palghat	796	51	29	13	889	65	0	0	0	65	861	51	29	13	954
3.	Erode	893	227	126	62	1,308	132	34	19	10	195	1,025	261	145	72	1,503
4.	Karur	645	137	80	40	902	62	17	7	6	92	707	154	87	48	994
5.	Trichinopoly	13,310	4,469	3,452	1,571	22,802	1,288	391	248	126	2,053	14,598	4,860	3,700	1,697	24,855
6.	Manaparai	553	182	116	47	898	127	42	18	14	199	680	224	134	59	1,097
7.	Dindigul	1,040	294	118	77	1,529	145	43	20	8	216	1,185	337	138	85	1,745
8.	Tanjore	1,554	429	157	157	2,297	114	25	7	7	153	1,668	454	164	164	2,450
9.	Ammapatnam	140	47	22	8	217	Closed					140	47	22	8	217
10.	Arantangi	103	29	39	16	187	104	27	27	14	172	207	56	66	30	359
11.	Pudukottah	869	244	240	115	1,468	98	24	19	8	149	967	268	259	123	1,617
MADURA CIRCLE:—																
12.	Madura	2,806	1,009	719	382	4,916	320	108	79	36	543	3,126	1,117	798	418	5,459
13.	Pamban	37	14	6	1	58	Closed					37	14	6	1	58
14.	Mandapam	1,705	755	556	264	3,280	242	117	57	16	462	1,947	872	613	310	3,742
15.	Tinnevelly	923	194	176	68	1,361	81	19	10	8	118	1,004	213	136	76	1,479
16.	Tataparai	1,030	367	161	122	1,680	116	36	15	20	187	1,146	403	176	142	1,867
17.	Tondi	287	97	49	32	465	11	4	2	3	20	298	101	51	35	485
SALEM CIRCLE:—																
18.	Nanjangud	172	57	25	7	261	37	21	12	10	80	209	78	37	17	341
19.	Dharmapuri	127	39	18	15	197	5	2	1	0	8	132	41	17	15	205
20.	Kuppam	74	12	9	5	100	18	6	2	3	29	92	18	11	8	129
21.	Tirupathur	27	14	0	2	43	2	1	0	0	3	29	15	0	2	46
22.	Salem	664	199	105	79	1,047	63	13	6	7	89	727	212	111	86	1,138
23.	Atur	183	61	32	29	305	20	5	4	0	29	203	66	36	29	334
24.	Namakkal	406	142	102	68	718	37	10	14	4	65	443	152	116	72	783
25.	Turaiyer	260	120	95	63	538	69	31	15	17	132	329	151	110	80	670
26.	Musiri	408	167	141	85	801	18	10	2	4	34	423	177	143	89	835
ARCOT CIRCLE:—																
27.	Katpadi	1,292	450	184	114	2,040	150	47	21	11	229	1,442	497	205	125	2,269
28.	Arkonam	847	284	93	106	1,330	83	26	6	8	123	930	310	99	114	1,453
29.	Chingleput	920	288	127	55	1,390	103	32	17	9	161	1,023	340	144	64	1,551
30.	Villupuram	1,684	511	193	191	2,579	141	39	12	13	205	1,825	550	205	204	2,784
TELUGU CIRCLE:—																
31.	Guntakal	165	50	17	20	252	13	7	0	0	20	178	57	17	20	272
32.	Cuddapah	82	28	8	11	129	6	0	0	0	6	88	28	8	11	135
33.	Guntur	63	16	11	2	92	0	0	0	0	0	63	16	11	2	92
34.	Nellore	16	5	2	2	25	Closed					16	5	2	2	25
35.	Chittoor	11	12	1	2	26	Transporting Agency.					11	12	1	2	26
		34,347	11,017	7,209	3,834	56,407	3,713	1,140	640	390	5,883	38,060	12,157	7,849	4,224	62,290
														1913	81,911	

Total number of Coolies shipped at the 4 Ports of Tuticorin, Ammapatnam, Tondi and Mandapam as per Government Returns up to
 30th September, 1914..... 69,440
 30th September, 1913..... 101,485

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched Monthly from each Agency during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Telugu Circle.												
Guntakal	... 1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	32	91
"	... 1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452
"	... 1914	22	29	51	22	73	35	108	43	151	26	177
Cuddapah	... 1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95
"	... 1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	244
"	... 1914	12	33	45	...	45	20	65	13	78	12	90
Guntur	... 1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269	27	296
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	138
"	... 1914	2	2	4	6	10	7	17	10	27	31	58
Nellore	... 1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58
"	... 1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126
"	... 1914	7	...	7	7	14	4	18	4	22	3	25
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	51
"	... 1914	...	...	...	16	16	10	26	Transporting Agency. 26		Transporting Agency. 26	
Madras (For-warding Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Years.						July.	Total	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.
Guntakal	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	27	118	45	163	25	188
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	75	527	58	585	76	661
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	39	216	36	252	20	272
Cuddapah	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	37	132	18	150	26	176
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	132	376	18	394	46	440
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	27	117	12	129	6	135
Guntur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	83	329	8	337	...	337
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	3	141	14	155	11	166
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	28	86	6	92	...	92
Nellore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	9	67	...	67	...	67
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	13	139	2	141	6	147
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	closed	25	closed	25	closed	25
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	27	78	32	110	15	125
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	Transporting Agency. 26		Transporting Agency. 26		Transporting Agency. 26	
Madras (For-warding Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arcot Circle.												
Katpadi	... 1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1082	415	1497
"	... 1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1263	342	1605
"	... 1914	102	140	242	171	413	199	612	295	907	352	1259
Arkonam	... 1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1014
"	... 1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1023
"	... 1914	114	69	183	61	244	144	388	230	618	194	812
Chingleput	... 1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953	562	1515
"	... 1913	99	132	231	223	454	424	878	440	1318	492	1810
"	... 1914	55	78	133	107	240	154	394	258	652	247	899
Villupuram	... 1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1277	501	1778
"	... 1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1059	682	1741	654	2395
"	... 1914	118	140	258	167	425	312	737	404	1141	562	1708

Arcot Circle.		Year					July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.
Katpadi	...	1912	...	...	...	...	577	2074	499	2573	591	3164
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	320	1925	387	2312	387	2699
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	415	1674	366	2040	229	2269
Arkonam	...	1912	...	...	...	...	287	1301	311	1612	278	1890
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	368	1391	258	1649	275	1924
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	240	1052	278	1330	123	1453
Chingleput	...	1912	...	...	...	...	505	2020	437	2457	409	2866
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	556	2366	422	2788	405	3193
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	283	1182	208	1390	161	1551
Villupuram	...	1912	...	...	...	...	618	2396	629	3025	592	3617
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	582	2977	544	3521	531	4052
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	486	2189	390	2579	205	2784
Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Salem Circle.												
Nanjangud	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19	88
"	...	1914	19	6	25	15	40	17	57	72	60	132
Dharmapuri	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	35	35	36	71	101	14	115	13	128
"	...	1914	9	25	34	9	43	25	68	45	9	122
Kuppam	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	5	16	21	2	23	9	32	16	9	57
Tirupathur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	85	14	99
"	...	1914	6	6	12	...	12	...	4	16	6	22
Salem	...	1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	826	1103	1416
"	...	1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	628	217	840	1008
"	...	1914	42	71	113	122	235	168	403	222	141	766
Jolarpet (For-warding Agency.)	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182	249
"	...	1914	21	21	42	42	84	23	107	85	192	226
Namakal	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	18	15	33	58	91	55	146	83	229	316
"	...	1914	23	41	64	55	119	167	286	110	396	529
Turaiyur	...	1912	5	32	37	6	43	23	71	137	208	423
"	...	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	233	552
"	...	1914	16	5	21	51	72	31	103	158	144	405
Musiri	...	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	109	337
"	...	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	206	572
"	...	1914	13	2	15	19	34	73	107	222	258	587
Agencies.	Years.					July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	
Nanjangud	...	1912	...	...	...	...	18	106	31	137	20	157
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	71	203	58	261	80	341
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dharmapuri	...	1912	...	...	...	...	59	187	30	217	55	272
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	46	168	29	197	8	205
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kuppam	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	28	85	15	100	29	129
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirupathur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	12	111	27	138	30	168
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	11	33	10	43	3	46
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Salem	...	1912	...	...	...	...	346	1762	456	2218	457	2675
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	166	1174	185	1359	185	1544
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	131	897	150	1047	89	1136
Jolarpet (For-warding Agency.)	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	39	288	66	354	87	391
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	62	288	17	305	29	334
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Agencies.	Years.						July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.
Salem Circle.												
Namakkal	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	69	385	78	463	69	532
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	100	629	89	718	65	783
Turaiyur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	104	527	41	568	96	664
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	139	691	88	774	55	829
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	100	505	33	538	132	670
Musiri	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	87	424	52	476	32	505
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	177	749	122	871	82	953
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	159	746	55	801	34	838

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Madura Circle:—												
Madura	... 1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1178	603	1781	563	2344
"	... 1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1739	766	2505
"	... 1914	293	246	539	438	977	557	1534	851	2385	1045	3430
Pamban	... 1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201	93	294
"	... 1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224	68	292
"	... 1914	48	10	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
Mandapam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	128	128	382	510	762	1272	758	2030
Tinnevely	... 1912	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773	291	1064
"	... 1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958	399	1357
"	... 1914	133	108	241	113	354	112	466	186	652	291	943
Tatapara	... 1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1024	522	1546	607	2153
"	... 1913	267	352	619	433	1052	761	1813	741	2554	801	3355
"	... 1914	122	161	283	157	440	180	620	302	922	214	1136
Tuticorin (For- warding Agency)	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	... 1912	109	177	286	131	420	329	749	321	1070	360	1439
"	... 1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	1409
"	... 1914	111	56	167	44	211	30	241	77	318	59	377

Agencies.	Years.						July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.
Madura	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	537	2881	639	3520	624	4144
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	616	3121	609	3730	577	4307
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	876	4306	610	4916	543	5459
Pamban	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	132	426	100	526	86	612
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	75	367	67	434	71	505
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
Mandapam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	829	2859	421	3280	462	3742
Tinnevely	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	340	1404	260	1664	192	1856
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	400	1757	251	2008	289	2297
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	260	1203	158	1361	118	1479
Tatapara	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	573	2726	511	3237	446	3683
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	678	4033	620	4653	742	5395
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	352	1488	192	1680	187	1867
Tuticorin (For- warding Agency)	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	423	1853	204	2057	585	2642
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	402	1811	150	1961	257	2218
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	63	440	25	465	20	485

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	May.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Closed Agencies :—												
Cocanada	1912	..	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69	49	118
"	1913	6	15	21	37	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	1912	89	24	113	18	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182
"	1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	...	118
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	1912	...	27	27	12	39	31	70	44	114	10	124
"	1913	19	25	44	2	46	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	6	5	11	10	21	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	1912	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710	7365	18075	11717	29792	12546	42338
	1913	3491	3911	7402	4837	12239	9328	21567	14882	36449	15063	51512
	1914	2544	2798	5342	4330	9372	6623	15995	10544	26539	11804	38343

Agencies.	Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.
Cocanada	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Headquarter Circle.												
Cannanore	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	26	10	36	56	92
"	1914	85	18	53	27	80	59	139	87	176	35	211
Palghat	1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	82	302	167	469
"	1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	105	391	91	482
"	1914	38	89	127	65	192	83	275	141	416	179	595
Erode	1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	302	939	174	1113
"	1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	216	1021	274	1295
"	1914	50	106	156	121	277	162	439	164	603	293	896
Karur	1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	96	410	118	528
"	1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	184	527	87	614
"	1914	30	83	113	73	186	106	292	132	424	191	615
Trichinopoly	1912	740	1086	1776	1556	3332	3276	6608	6057	12665	6088	18758
"	1913	994	1201	2195	1453	2648	4081	7729	7639	15368	7193	22561
"	1914	740	796	1536	1371	2907	2747	5654	4668	10322	5258	15580
Manaparai	1912	111	103	214	135	349	129	478	344	822	297	1119
"	1913	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	425	1269	446	1715
"	1914	28	25	53	69	122	79	201	202	403	170	573
Dindigul	1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	289	835	295	1130
"	1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	403	1166	357	1523
"	1914	140	125	265	149	414	165	579	268	847	234	1081
Tanjore	1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879	328	1202
"	1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943	447	1390
"	1914	111	175	286	252	538	316	854	351	1205	491	1696

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Headquarter Circle.												
Ammapatnam	... 1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383	240	623
"	... 1913	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	179	444	174	618
"	... 1914	35	20	55	29	84	17	101	12	113	22	135
Puducottah	... 1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	214	698	348	1046
"	... 1918	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768	437	1205
"	... 1914	44	96	140	122	262	230	492	257	749	343	1092
Arantangi	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Agencies.	Years.											
		July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.					
Cannanore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palghat	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erode	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Karur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trichinopoly	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manaparai	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dindigul	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tanjore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1213	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ammapatnam	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puducottah	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arantangi	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarter & Madura Circles.						
Madura (Dindigul Agency)	Dindigul	...	...	...	Fair	Agents' Reports. Harvesting of cholam and cumbu is over everywhere. There will be a probability of getting large number of coolies now in Dindigul and its surrounding villages and also Pollachi, Udamalpet and Palani. Some working classes are willing to proceed to Ceylon for their livelihood.
	Palani	... Second por- tion of paddy, cumbu, cholam etc., are being sown.	5	3		
	Nilacottai	... do	5	2½		
	Periakulam	... do	4	2		
Coimbatore	Udamalpet	... }	5	2½		
	Pollachi	... } do	5	2½		

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER, 1914.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarter & Madura Circles.						
Madura (Madura Agency)	Madura	... Paddy crops poor, ragi fair.	6	3	Fair	Agents' Reports. Rain in the district is insufficient and very poor in some parts. Transplanting of paddy and ragi is going on in some parts where there is little rain. Sowing of other grains in dry fields set in. Cultivation of paddy is poor and ragi on the whole fair. Recruiting has gone down owing to the war agitation. Labour is available in the villages. Tilling and sowing of paddy and ragi in parts are going on.
	Maloor	... Paddy crops fair, ragi fair.	5	3	do	
	Periculam	... do	4	3	Indifferent	
	Nilacottai	... Paddy poor, ragi fair	4	3	do	
	Tirumangalam	... do	5	3	Fair	
Ramanad	Ramanad	... Paddy and ragi poor	4	3	do	
	Tirupuvanam	... do	4	2	Good	
	Tirupatur	... Paddy poor, ragi fair	5	3	Fair	
	Sivaganga	... do	5	3	do	
	Mana Madura	... do	4	3	Indifferent	
Trichinopoly (Karur Agency)	Karur	... Paddy, ragi, cumbu, groundnuts, cholam, tennarie, good.	4	2½		
Coimbatore	Dharapuram	... Paddy, ragi, cumbu, cholam, groundnuts, and tennarie, good	4	2½		
Coimbatore (Erode Agency)	Erode	...				Owing to the European War exportation of grains is at an end; consequently there is every chance of obtaining foodstuffs at a cheap rate.
	Palladam	...				
	Bhavani	...				
	Gobichettipalayam	... Good harvest is expected in these parts	4 to 6	3 to 4	Up to Deepavali festival recruiting will not be satisfactory	
	Avanasi	...				
	Satiamangalam	... owing to timely rains				
	Udamalpet	...				
	Pollachi	...				
Malabar (Palghat Agency)	Kollegal	...				It is very hard to recruit coolies as they got sufficient work in this part of this month
	Palghat	... In some parts of this taluk crops have been cut down and the farmers are preparing for the second crop. In other parts it is very high time for reaping.	3 to 4	2½ to 3		
Do	Cherakal	...				There is rise in the prices of some of the foodstuffs; the coolies who used to work when steamers arrive here are all unemployed hence there is good chance for good recruiting.
	Kottayam	...				
	Kurambanad	...				
	Calicut	...				
	Ernad	...	5 to 6	2½ to 3	Good	
	Walawanad	...				
	Ponani	...				
Trichinopoly (Manapara Agency)	Palghat	...				For want of sufficient rain crops have failed and so coolies are available in these parts, if there are reliable kangaries to recruit, provided they are given good encouragement. As Deepavali is fast approaching, it is said that after that festival only coolies will begin to proceed to estates.
	Wynaad	...				
	Trichy	... Cholam	2½	1½		
	S. Kolatur	... Cumbu, varago, cholam groundnuts poor.	4	2	Good	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarter & Madura Circles.						
Puducottah ...	Kiranur	... Ragi, cholam	3½	2		
	Tirumayam	... Groundnuts	4	3		
	Kolatur	... Cholam, cum-bu poor	4	2½		
Madura ...	Dindigul	... Groundnuts, varagoo, samay, cholam, ragi, poor	5	4	do	
	Melur	... Paddy, samay, varagoo, poor	4	2		
	Tiruvadani	...	6 to 8	4 to 5		
Ramnad (Tondi Agency)	Tirupatur	...				
	Sivaganga	...				
	Paramakudi	...				
Ramnad (Mandapam Agency.)	Sathur	... Crop prospects fair.				
	Srivilliputur	... Ryots are engaged in sowing of paddy,				
	Ramnad	... ragi, cholam, dholi as little				
	Kamudi	... rain has poured recently in this district.				
	Rasimangalam	... Water supply sufficient,				
	Paramakudi	... flows over the Grand Anicut				
	Mudukolatur	... 4 feet, but the supply is inadequate.				
	Sivaganga	... Transplanting of paddy and sowing of gingly, paddy, cumbu, varagoo, and groundnut is in progress in parts. Standing crop is generally fair, harvested paddy and ragi outturn fair, pasture generally sufficient—fodder available—condition of cattle generally good. Anthrax in 3 taluks. Employment available. Grain stocks sufficient. Prospects generally fair.				
	Arantangi	...				
	Kumbakonam	...				
Tanjore (Tanjore Agency.)	Mannarkudi	...				
	Mayaveram	...				
	Nannilam	...				
	Negapatam	...				
	Papanasam	...				
	Pattukottai	...				
	Shiyali	...				
	Tanjore	...				
Tanjore (Tanjore Agency.)	Tiruturaipoondi	...				
	Tiruturaipoondi	...				

Wages of coolies decreased as the per fishery is over.

Coolies will enormously start only after cultivation.

Men ... 6 annas.

Women ... 4 "

Children ... 2½ "

Ceylon recruiting notices are being sent to villages per peons and kangaries for distribution to stop the absurd rumours that coolies are not sent to Ceylon.

We can expect the same number of coolies for the next month.

Not favourable.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop. Prospects.	Local		Wages.	Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women			
			Annas.	Annas.			Agents' Reports.
Madras & Madura Circles.							
Tanjore ... (Arantangi Agency.)	Tanjore ...	do	Town				
	Papanasam ...						
	Mannarkudi ...						
	Negapatam ...						
	Nannilam ...						
	Mayaveram ...	do	7 to 9	4 to 6		Employment available and so recruiting not very favourable.	
	Kumbakonam ...						
	Shiyali ...						
	Pattukotai ...						
	Tiruturaipoondi ...	do					
Tanjore ... (Arantangi Agency.)	Arantangi ...						
	Kolatur ...	Ragi produce is fair in parts. Good rain throughout. Paddy trans- plantation commenced.	4	2		Very poor	The spread of rumour to the effect that coolies are not sent to Ceylon owing to Continental war has impoverished the re- cruiting prospects. In addition to this timely rains have attracted the attention of the working class to the cultivation process.
	Tirumayam ...	do	5	3		do	
	Alangudi ...	Ragi produce is fair through- out. Abun- dant of rain, transplanta- tion is going on vigorously.	4	2		Fair	
	Ambasamudram ...	Good	8	6			Harvesting has commenced recently in many taluks of the district, so there is much demand for labour. War scare has not yet vanished.
Tanjore ... (Arantangi Agency.)	Tenkasi ...	do	8	6			
	Tinnevely ...	Fair	9	7			
	Nanguneri ...	Not fair	5	3		Not bad, not expected to be fair this month.	
	Koilpatti ...	Fair	7	5			
	Srivaikuntam ...	do	8	6			
Tanjore ... (Arantangi Agency.)	Trichendur ...	do	7	5			
	Sankaranainar- coil ...	Not bad	5	3			
	Trivendrum ...	Fair					
			6	5			
			4	2			
Tanjore ... (Arantangi Agency.)	Koilpatti ...	Dry lands.— Season is beginning and the farmers are ploughing their lands to cultivate cho- lam, cumbu, ragi and cotton and expecting for rain.					
	Sankaranainar- coil ...	Wet lands.— Tiruchendur and Srivaigun- dam taluks have already sown paddy as there is suffi- cient water in the river.					
	Tiruchendur ...						
	Srivaigundam ...						

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop. Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks. Agents' Reports.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.	Salem Town ...	Fair	4 to 6	2½ to 3	Slack at present	The coolies are engaged in P. W. D. Works.
	Salem Taluk ...	do	4 to 5	2½ to 3	Poor	Most of the labourers are engaged in the fields at present and there has been a fair amount of rain lately. Recruiting will probably therefore be fairly slack in October and November.
	Omalur ...	do	3½ to 4	2 to 2½	do	
	Trichengode ...	do	4	2½ to 3	do	
	Uttengarai ...	do	4	2½ to 3	do	
Salem	(Hosur and Krishnagiri)...	Very fair	4	2½ to 3	do	Heavy rain has fallen in both these taluks lately, and all the people are engaged in their crops. There is not likely to be much recruiting in these taluks in October and November on this account.
	Attur ...	All in good condition	4 3	3 in towns 2 in villages	Moderate	Every one is engaged in the fields at present. Recruiting may be a little better after a month or so. Hand-bills have been freely distributed and the people seem more reassured as regards emigration to Ceylon.
	Dharmapuri ...	Very fair	5 to 6	3 to 4	Slack	There has been good rain in this taluk also, and coolies are therefore engaged in the fields. Labour is not likely to be available before the harvest is over, and until after the Deepavali festival on the 18th October. There are two kanganies working in this taluk at present.
Trichy	Namakkal ...	Moderate	3 to 4	2 to 3	Poor	Several parts of this taluk have had a lot of rain lately and the people are mostly engaged in the fields. The present European crisis is still creating some alarm amongst the people who are in consequence afraid to emigrate to different parts. Vigorous steps have been taken to distribute the Hand-bills and encourage the people by explaining to them that they need have no fear in emigrating to Ceylon.
Trichy	Musiri, Kulitalai and Perumbalore	Moderate	6 to 8 4 to 5 1½ to 2 for children.	3 to 4 2 to 3 in villages.	Dull	Recruiting has almost ceased in these taluks and will be slack in the course of the next two months, as the recruiting season is generally over by then. A lot of recruiters are hanging about doing nothing, as considerable alarm has been spread by false rumours regarding emigration to Ceylon. Every possible endeavour is being made to spread the Hand-bills broadcast and to encourage the people and remove their fears of emigration to Ceylon. These Hand-bills have already had a good effect in a few places, and it is hoped that they will have the desired effect all over the recruiting districts, as soon as they have been thoroughly distributed. The stopping of advances by some of the estates in Ceylon has, in some degree, enhanced the fear of emigration.
North Arcot...	Tirupathur ...	Poor	4	2	Moderate	The prices of grains have increased owing to very little rain and the prospect of a poor harvest.
North Arcot...	Kuppam (Kangundi Zemindary)	Moderate	4 to 5	3 to 3½	Very fair	Coolies are at present available in almost all parts around here as they have no work in the fields at present. Coolies are also available in Kolar District and in the adjoining Mysore territory and in Bangalore District.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
Mysore	Mysore and Nanjangud ...	Paddy and cholum good	5	3	Moderate	In some parts of Mysore crops are good as they received good rains and in others the dry crops as well as paddy is totally bad. A little labour is, however, available in Mysore.
	Gundlupet and T. Narasipur ...	Paddy and dry grains bad	4	3	do	
	Chamrakanagar, Yelandur and ...	Dry grains except cholum bad	5	2½	do	
	Nagangola ...	bad	5	2½	do	
	S. Patam and Yedathorai ...	Ragi and paddy good	5	3	Bad	
E. V. B. LEVINGE, Assistant Commissioner, Salem Circle, 30th October, 1914.						
Arcot & Telugu Circles.						
North Arcot	Gudiyatam ...	Paddy and groundnuts good.	4	2	Good	Pal samba, vaden samba and sornavari are being cultivated now. Harvest of cumbu is nearly completed. Poorer classes have work in the fields, viz., weeding the crops of groundnuts and re-planting the seedlings. Some are going out to earn their livelihood and some are employed under P. W. D. and in the construction of Cauvery Reservoir project at Kammambadi near Mysore and they are paid an increased rate at 6 annas for males and 3 annas for females. Coolies can be had in the taluqs mentioned herein. October and November is the season for sowing grain, black gram, green gram, etc., besides being the busiest part of weeding the samba crops, etc.
	Walaja ...	do	do	do	do	
	Vellore ...	do	do	do	do	
	Polur ...	do	do	do	Fair	
	Arni ...	do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Arcot ...	do	do	do	do	
	Wandiwash ...	do	do	do	do	
	Tiruvanamalai ...	do	do	do	Fair	
	Arkonam ...	Paddy good cumbu harvesting finished.	4 to 5	2½ to 3½	Good	
	Cheyar ...	do	do	3½ to 4½	do	
Chittoor ...	Putthoor and Karvetnager	Paddy sowing and cumbu harvesting finished.	do	2½ to 3½	do	
Chingleput	Tiruvallur ...	Ragi harvesting is going on, cumbu and cholum will be harvested.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good	On account of the recent good rains throughout the district the recruiting will be rather poor.
	Ponnerly ...	do	do	do	do	
	Chingleput ...	Paddy good.	5	4	do	
	Conjeeveram ...	do	do	do	do	
	Madurantakam ...	Kambu and paddy.	do	do	do	
	Saidapet ...	Ragi and cumbu	do	do	do	
	Villupuram ...	Groundnut, cumbu and ragi harvesting	5	4	Good	
South Arcot...	Cuddalore ...	do	do	do	do	Recruiting prospects will be good as Penang and Singapore are reported to have stopped recruiting for the present. Dull owing to heavy work in the coast. If the Straits coolies return as expected Ceylon recruiting may be brisker.
	Chidambaram ...	Paddy sowing	4	3	do	
	Kallakurchi ...	Ragi and cumbu harvesting.	5	4	do	
	Tindivanam ...	do	4½	3½	do	
	Tirukoilur ...	Groundnut, cumbu and ragi harvesting	5	4	do	
	Virudachelam ...	do	3	2	do	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men Annas.	Women Annas.		
Arcot & Telugu Circies.						
Cuddapah ...	Cuddapah ...	Paddy and cholam good.	4	do	Indifferent	
	Jammalamadugu	Cultivation going on.	6	3	Good	
	Prodattur ...	do	8	4	Bad	
	Badvel ...	Cumbu growing	3	2	Good	
	Sidhout ...	do	do	do	do	
	Pullampet ...	Cumbu and rice growing.	4	do	do	
	Royachoti ...	Cumbu growing	3	do	do	
	Pulivendla ...	Cultivation going on.	4	do	Bad	
	Kamalapuram ...	do	do	do	Good	
	Guntur ...	Cumbu, cholam, cotton chillies and redgram.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Indifferent	
Guntur ...	Vinukonda ...	do	do	do	Good	
	Narasarowpet ...	Cumbu, cholam, cotton chillies and redgram.	do	do	Indifferent	
	Satnapalli ...	do	do	do	do	
	Bapatla ...	do	do	do	Bad	
Anantapur ...	Tenali ...	do	do	do	do	
	Anantapur ...	Harvest.	5	3	Moderate	
	Dharmavarem ...	do	4	2	Bad	
	Kadiri ...	do	do	4	do	
	Gooty ...	do	do	1½	Moderate	
	Tadpatri ...	do	4	2½	Bad	
	Kaliyandrug ...	do	4½	do	Moderate	
	Bellary ...	do	5	do	do	
Bellary ...	Uruvakonda ...	do	4	2	do	
	Royadrag ...	do	5	2½	do	
	Hospet ...	do	5	do	do	
	Adony ...	do	4½	do	do	
Kurnool ...	Kurnool ...	do	5	2½	Moderate	
	Nandiyal ...	do	4½	do	do	
	Dhone ...	do	5½	do	do	

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
5th October, 1914.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
5th October, 1914.

THE CEYLON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY PRICE CURRENT.

STATEMENT OF EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

No. 42

COLOMBO, MONDAY, 2nd NOVEMBER, 1914.

RICE.						Rs.	Cts.	@	Rs.	Cts.
Muttusamba No. 1 (without bags) per bushel F O. R. Colombo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " 2	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
" " 3	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Soolaye " 1	"	"	"	"	"	5	40	"	5	80
" " 2	"	"	"	"	"	5	30	"	5	35
" " 3	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	5	25
" Kara	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Silhet (Hari Kali)	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Pegu & Calcutta Calunda	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	5	39
Coast Calunda	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Coast Kara	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Kadappa and Kuruwe	"	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Rangoon Raw	"	per 3 bushel bag	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month ending September, 1914.

		Instructional Staff.																								
DETAIL.		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	arr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Major.	Trumpeters.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. Instructor.	Total.	REMARKS.
Regtl. Staff		1	1	1	3	1	7	1	1	1	1	4	11	1	1	1	4	
A. Squadron																										
Staff	1	1	1	1	1	3	4
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	28	33	...	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	26	30	31	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	3	1	34	44	45	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	6	5	2	95	116	121	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron																										
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	20	24	25	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	16	20	21	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	29	32	33	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	17	20	21	...	...	...	...
TOTAL		...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	...	4	2	3	82	98	104	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	1	1	3	1	7	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	11	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	1	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	6	5	2	95	116	121	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	...	4	2	3	82	98	104	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	10	1	1	10	7	5	177	218	236	1	1	1	3	
Total Strength last Return	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	10	1	1	9	7	4	160	199	217	1	1	1	3	
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sqms.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	3	
Wanting to Complete	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	4	1	4	24	35	35	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	...	1	2	3	...	6	1	1	1	1	...	5	...	...	2	1	...	23	35	41	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve	...	1	4	5	13	1	14	2	2	2	3	2	15	1	1	12	8	5	200	253	277	1	1	1	3	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.
FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1914.

Coy.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.										Colour-Sergeant. Sergeant. Lance-Sergets & Corpals. Sergt.-Bugler, Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.	Coy. Strength.		
		Lieut.-Colonel. Majors. Captains. Lieutenants. 2nd Lieutenants. Adjutant. Qr. Master. Sergt. Major. Qr. M. Sergt.															
	Staff	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	4		
A.	Kelani Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	28	32	
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	17	
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	
B.	Kandy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	17	20	
	Matale	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	11	
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	
	Rangalla	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8	
C.	Mattakelle	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	12	16	
	Agrapatna	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	13	16	
	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	13	15	
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	7	
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	15	17	
	Bogawantlawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	6	
	Punduloyaa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	
D.	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	10	11	
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	7	9	
	Haputale	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	7	
	Badulla	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	15	20	
	Uda Pussellawa	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	8	11	
	Batticaloa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	9	12	
E.	Kalutara	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	37	41	
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	17	
	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	21	22	
	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	11	14	
	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	5	
F.	Colombo	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	39	42	
G.	Ambegamuwa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	13	15	
	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	11	13	
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	10	12	
'H.'	Company	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	...	60	68	
M. C.	Section	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	30	32	
	Contingent Company	...	1	3	1	1	1	1	...	7	5	...	173	193	
* TOTAL STRENGTH		1	2	9	7	6	1	1	1	5	21	27	1	5	646	733	
Strength by last Return		1	2	9	6	7	1	1	1	6	19	26	1	5	592	677	
Increase Since		1	2	1	54	
Decrease Since		1	1	
C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File		51	=	60	Increase	56	
Total Strength including Reserve		793	Reserve	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adjt. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.



NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of general meeting held at the Hill Club, Nuwara Eliya, on Saturday, 17th October, 1911, at 2.30 p.m.

Present:—Mr. A. J. Volum (in the chair) and Messrs. Kenneth L. Gordon, H. J. Temple, N. Rayner Smith, L. O. Gilliat, A. L. Sinclair, E. C. Elliott, R. I. Hughes, A. C. W. Ferguson, N. W. Davies, W. P. Spurway, D. H. Young, J. MacTier, and R. F. Megginson (Hon. Secretary).

The notice of the meeting was read and the minutes of the last general meeting were read and confirmed.

HOSPITAL AND BAKER WARD.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary to say that Government could not contribute to the Baker Ward Fund.

Read statement of fund to date, shewing Rs. 362.50 as total collected, of which Rs. 307.50 has been paid.

It was decided to purchase two file-topped bed-tables.

ALTERATION OF RULES.

Proposed by Mr. SPURWAY, seconded by the CHAIRMAN and carried:—"That Nannuoya should be included as a section of the Nuwara Eliya District with equal power of representation."

LOCAL LABOUR FEDERATION.

Read letter from Udupussellawa P. A. to say that the Federation's year would, in future, be from 1st January to 31st December, and that estates joining should be bound for the current year.

Resolved:—"That the question of joining be considered at the January meeting."

RESOLUTION FROM PUNDULOWA P. A.

re "Prevention of bolting to Coast" was generally considered impracticable.

THE PRESENT CRISIS.

Prince of Wales's War Fund lists tabled shewing Rs. 2,100.25 so far paid and promised through this Association.

It was resolved to collect donations and send them in monthly.

Proposed by Mr. FERGUSON, seconded by Mr. ELLIOTT and carried:—"That Rs. 25 be given to the Fund out of the Association's balance."

Read letter from Parent Association *re* "gift of Ceylon tea."

After some discussion it was resolved on a motion by Mr. HUGHES, seconded by Mr. TEMPLE: "That the Parent Association be asked for particulars regarding the Origin of the Gift."

A list was circulated in the room and some tea and money promised.

Mr. SPURWAY read a newspaper cutting *re* a Coroner's inquest on the body of a cooly in Nuwara Eliya, and proposed: "That Government be requested to ask Mr. Naganathar J.P., C.P.M., whether his verdict on the death of a beggar in Nuwara Eliya Bazaars as recorded in the Ceylon "Morning Leader" of the 15th September, 1911, is correct, and if so, to make him either substantiate or withdraw and apologise for certain statements contained in the body of the verdict. This was seconded by Mr. DAVIES and carried unanimously.

Mr. TEMPLE then spoke on the present crisis, and the following resolution of his, seconded by Mr. GILLIAT was carried unanimously: "That the members of this D.P.A. feel very strongly that further help in men should be offered from this Island to assist in fighting in Europe and that all the representative District P.A.'s be asked as a matter of urgency, to pass an opinion on this matter to the P.A. of Ceylon, with the request that the Parent body pass the opinions on to the authorities for their consideration."

A vote of condolence with the relatives of the late Mr. Joseph Fraser, Colonel Gordon Reeves, was then passed, all members standing.

Mr. TEMPLE wished God-speed and a safe return to the Ceylon Contingent and three cheers were given for them.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from General-Manager, C.G.R., intimating that Loading Boards would be supplied for Kandapola station.

Read letter from District Engineer.

Read letter from A.G.A., and G.A. *re* "plague."

Read letter from A.G.A., *re* "Cholera."

Read letter from C.P.A. *re* "Infant Mortality on Estates."

A letter from the Ceylon Brewery asking if there would be any objection to the establishing of a shop at Kandapola was read, and it was unanimously resolved to oppose the application of a license.

The following were appointed a Committee to draft the annual report:—Chairman, Honorary Secretary, and Messrs. Spurway, Temple and Ferguson.

Mr. HUGHES was appointed auditor for the 1914 accounts.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

R. F. MEGGINSON,

Hon. Secretary.

THE DOLOSbage AND YAKDESSA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above Association was held at Pen-y-lan on the 17th instant, at which the following were present:—Messrs. M. H. Reeves (Chairman), W. J. R. Hamilton, W. Russell Scott, F. R. Bisset, E. G. Box, M. B. Blount and Hon. Secretary.

The correspondence was considered and left over to be discussed at the general meeting.

A general meeting was held at 10 a.m. at which were present in addition to those members of the Committee already mentioned Messrs. A. M. MacNeill, T. B. Hankey. Visitors: Messrs. D. Scott, E. Wright, and E. Skinner.

Read letter from Mr. G. Hunter of Gangwerily *re* payment of coolies during present crisis. This Association was of opinion that at present no action need be taken. Further the meeting regretted that this gentleman was not present to speak to his letter.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Read letter from the Parent Association *re* Infantile mortality on Estates. Mr. W. Russell Scott mentioned that lately there had been considerable delay in getting the D.M.O. to attend a serious maternity case, and he proposed a resolution that the P.C.M.O. be written requesting him to order D.M.O.'s when called for in urgent maternity cases to attend with as little delay as possible. Seconded by Mr. F. R. Bisset.

Excise.

Read letter from the Hon. Secretary Sabaragamuwa Association.

The meeting could not give this resolution their support as members thought the scheme was impracticable.

HOSPITALS.

Read reports from visitors of Dolosbage, Gampola and Nawalapitiya Hospitals.

INQUIRIES INTO SUDDEN DEATHS.

Read letter from the Hon. the Government Agent, C.-P., confirming Mr. A. M. MacNeill's appointment.

POONAGALLA-SEAFORTH BRIDLE PATH.

Read letter from Kegalle Road Committee intimating that this body was unable to extend the grant.

Mr. W. RUSSELL SCOTT stated that he had spent a large sum of money on the road and that Government ought to give a further grant of Rs. 150 towards recompensing him for the expense he had been put to in repairing flood damages.

It was resolved:—"That the Secretary be instructed to write to the K.R.C. to this effect."

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Read letter from Mr. H. Mell Sim soliciting support for a scheme of motor transport in Dolosbage.

Mr. E. G. Box informed the meeting that he had been advised by Government that the road was passable for 3-ton motor lorries as far as the Barnagalla turn-off.

It was resolved:—"That the Secretary be directed to write to the estates interested and ask for particulars of transport tonnage and if they were likely supporters of the scheme."

ACTING J.P., U.P.M., FOR DOLOSbage EAST.

It was proposed by Mr. W. RUSSELL SCOTT and seconded by Mr. E. G. Box that Mr. Bisset be nominated for temporary appointment by Government in place of Mr. A. J. Stephens, who is at present at Home.

CEYLON GIFT OF TEA.

The CHAIRMAN said:—The general opinion in Ceylon seems to be that tea estates only should subscribe to this Fund. But this was hardly fair. Everybody should give their quota, Rubber and Coconut Estate proprietors as well as the proprietors of tea producing estates. Individual Superintendents should also do what they can to help make up the million lbs. of tea that had been promised to Lord Kitchener. He hoped that no one, Superintendents or Proprietors, would back out of giving tea because they had given something to the Prince of Wales's Fund.

A list was sent round and Rs. 400 was subscribed by members at present.

PRINCE OF WALES'S FUND.

The CHAIRMAN hoped that anyone would give as much as he possibly could to this fund. Those who could not go to the front were under an obligation to contribute money—and contribute handsomely. He did not propose to hand round a list as most men in the district had already subscribed, but he hoped that those who had not sent in their subscriptions would do so at the earliest opportunity. Collecting lists received from the Parent Association had been sent round the district and those who had made collections were heartily thanked. Whilst on the subject of War Funds he thought the present occasion a favourable one for asking members to give something to the "Time"

of Ceylon " War Passage Fund. It was well known that if the war was to be brought to a successful end every man capable of defending his country should come forward. Many men in Ceylon were coming forward and he thought money could not be given with a better purpose than that of helping those who could not pay their passage money home to have a smack at the modern vandals.

Mr. BISSET, in a short speech, pointed out that it was a matter for public protest that the authorities in Ceylon were doing nothing to help those men who wished to respond to Kitchener's call. Many men had gone Home at their own expense, for this purpose. He thought it was a matter for all District Associations and the Parent Association to interest themselves in, and proposed the following resolution:—

"That this Association deplores the attitude adopted by Government in withholding assistance to those men who are able and anxious to fight for their country.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. BLOUNT and carried unanimously.

A list was handed round and Rs. 565 was collected for the "Times of Ceylon" War Passage Fund. The Secretary was instructed to circulate this list and the Ceylon Tea Gift list, in the district requesting members who were not present at the meeting to subscribe.

KANDY COMMITTEE.

Proposed by Mr. W. RUSSELL SCOTT and seconded by Mr. Box that Mr. Bisset be elected a member of the Kandy Committee in place of Mr. A. J. Stephens, who has gone Home.

This finished the business of the meeting.

E. C. DAWSON,
HON. SECRETARY,

RANGALLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at Ferndale drill shed on Saturday, October 24th, at 2 p.m.

Present: Messrs. H. B. T. Boucher, A. H. Kerr, W. Polson, R. W. Lindsay-White, C. B. Clay, C. J. Pattenson, R. H. Ellis, Visitors Messrs. J. A. Tate and E. Wilson. Proposed by Mr. C. B. Clay and seconded by Mr. Lindsay-White that Mr. Boucher be asked to take the chair temporarily owing to the absence of Mr. Hall Brown who has sailed with the Contingent.

The notice calling the meeting was read. The minutes of the meeting held on May 26th were read and confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Pundaluoya P.A. resolution re coolies bolting to coast was supported. Kegalle P.A. resolution re Proprietors' Labour Federation was supported.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND HON. SECRETARY.

Proposed by Mr. C. B. Clay and seconded by Mr. C. J. Pattenson that Mr. Boucher be elected Chairman and Secretary. Carried unanimously.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The matter has been hung up owing to the war, but the subject should not be allowed to drop.

TELEPHONES.

Resolved that the telephone posts between the Ferndale Exchange and Government Jungle Boundary be replaced by iron posts at a cost of about Rs. 70 per estate. Carried unanimously.

CARDAMOM THEFT.

Resolved that the Government Agent be written to re Cardamom thefts which are still prevalent in the District and that it be pointed out that apparently the Headmen do nothing to prevent the theft or to detect the thieves.

Resolved that the name of Mr. H. B. T. Boucher be submitted to the Government Agent in place of Mr. Hall Brown as J.P., U.P.M. for the Kandy District. A vote of appreciation was passed to Major Hall Brown and members of the Contingent from the District.

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the meeting.

H. B. T. BOUCHER,
Hon. Secretary, Rangalla P.A.

RAMBODA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

SYMPATHY WITH MOVEMENT TO SEND MORE MEN TO THE FRONT.

Bolting of Coolies.

A meeting of the Ramboda Planters' Association was held at Ramboda Resthouse on Wednesday last. There were present: Messrs. N. C. Rolt (Chairman), W. de Lemos, H. C. Lankester, C. J. Marzetti, E. L. S. Agar, P. L. Steuart, C. W. Newton, H. Fenning, E. C. Wooley (visitor), and A. F. Howie (Hon. Secretary). Mr. J. H. Marcel telegraphed regretting his inability to attend.

The minutes of the last general meeting having been confirmed, a vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of the late Messrs. J. Fraser, J. Rettie, J. Aymer, Melville White, Colonel Gordon Reeves and Miss B. Layard.

It was proposed by Mr. C. W. NEWTON: "That the present law as regards the employment of estate coolies by small landowners and caddy-keepers is not definite enough."

After discussion, it was resolved that specific cases and legal opinion thereon be forwarded to the Parent Association.

PRINCE OF WALES'S WAR FUND.

It was announced that Rs. 1,278.84 had been collected in the district.

GIFT OF CEYLON TEA.

It was proposed by Mr. H. C. LANKESTER, and seconded by Mr. H. FENNING, "That the amount of tea and cash collected should be published weekly."

PRICE OF FOODSTUFFS.

It was resolved that the Parent Association be requested to ascertain from the Colonial Secretary why the price of foodstuffs having been fixed for retailers, the wholesale dealers have been allowed to charge higher rates, thus making large profits.

The question of the recovery of half the coolies pay in order to reduce advances was discussed, and it was the opinion of the meeting that, owing to the high price of all foodstuffs, such recovery would not leave the coolies sufficient for their requirements.

MEN FOR THE FRONT.

The following resolution from the Nuwara Eliya Association was read, and met with the sympathy of the meeting: "That the members of this D.P.A. feel very strongly that further help in men should be offered from this island to assist in fighting in Europe, and that all local representative District P.A.'s be asked, as a matter of urgency, to pass an opinion on this matter to the P.A. of Ceylon, with the request that the Parent body pass the opinions on to the authorities for their consideration."

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Planters' Association, enclosing a subscription list for the St. John Ambulance Association, which was circulated. A letter was also read from the Hon. the Government Agent, C.P., announcing the appointment of Mr. J. H. Marcel to the office of J.P. and U.P.M.

From the Pundaluoya Association the following resolution was received and read: "That owing to the railway being now open to India, the Parent Association be asked whether they can see their way to elaborating some scheme to prevent estate coolies from bolting to coast without leave especially by rail."

This was supported, and the meeting closed with vote of thanks to the Chairman.

A. F. HOWIE.
Hon. Secretary

PUNDALUOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Pundaluoya Planters' Association was held on the 27th October. Present: Messrs J. H. Marcel, H. L. Egan, G. B. Stuart and J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman.) Read letter from Mr. F. E. Paulet regretting inability to attend.

PUNDALUOYA RESOLUTION RE COOLIES BOLTING TO COAST WITHOUT LEAVE.

Correspondence on the above subject was read, and after a discussion, it was resolved "that owing to the settled state of affairs, the matter be left alone for the present."

APPOINTMENT OF HON. SECRETARY.

Mr. G. B. Stuart was appointed Hon. Secretary in place of Mr. C. Owen, who has left for the Front.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Provincial Engineer in reply to correspondence of 9th May. This being considered satisfactory, it was resolved "that the Hon. Secy should write pointing out where the deficiencies occur."

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to chair.

GEO. B. STUART
Hon. Secy

Supplement to the "Planting Gazette," December, 1914.



THE LATE FIELD MARSHAL EARL ROBERTS,
V.C., P.C., K.P., G.C.P., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., K.G., D.C.L., LL.D.



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Vol. II.]

DECEMBER, 1914.

[No 10

EDITORIAL NOTES.

BOBS—AN IMMORTAL.



SINCE our last issue news has come of the lamentable death of Lord Roberts—Bobs Bahadur as he was often affectionately called—and a whole Empire is in mourning for him. We doubt if since the death of Nelson, any man's death has called forth the spontaneous admiration evinced during the last few weeks. Gordon we admired, but his heroism was not of the people. Much of Wellington's popularity was discounted by his politics. But Bobs—who did not advertise—Bobs who of recent years opened his mouth so often in single-hearted patriotism that most men called him an advertiser—was of a nature that has lived down his critics; living to see his theories vindicated yet scorning to say "I told you so."

Lord Kitchener is reported to have said that he would black Lord Roberts' boots if he could not get any other position on his staff. We fancy that this voices the sentiment of half a generation ago; and although in his retirement Lord Roberts forfeited the good opinion of many by his persistent call for conscription, it is only natural that those who reviled him should see in the fulfilment of his warnings a greater Bobs than ever before conceived. He *knew* and we did not; and with our eyes on Belgium shall we not breathe a profound regret for our folly in not listening to him?

He died as he would have wished to die—surrounded by kindred spirits and loving faces and within sound of the guns, whose every detonation vindicated his old age. He went straight from welcoming his beloved Indians to his death-bed: and his failing breath seems to have brought a kindly message to each and every one of us—*Ave frater atque vale.*

RETRENCHMENT.

The outbreak of war, and the consequent tightness of the money market, necessitated the prompt introduction of the exercise of the strictest economy in the working of the estates throughout the Island. Colombo Agents, Managers and those responsible for the financial administration of the properties were among the first to recognise this, and necessary instructions for curtailment of much expenditure, were soon in the hands of the various Superintendents. It was felt, and rightly too, that whilst all expenditure necessary for the maintenance of the properties in good order should in no way be curtailed, such items as the erection of buildings, etc., and other capital outlay might wisely be held over until the present war clouds had burst and peace and prosperity were again with us. We believe that such efforts have met with loyal co-operation on the part of the Superintendents, and properties in Ceylon have never been worked more economically than is the case today.

The necessity for general financial economy has also been realized by the Government, and in a circular issued, in which a shrinkage in Revenue of 25 per cent. is announced, instructions were given for the revision of all current estimates forthwith. The burning question to our mind is, on what lines are these economies to be effected? That there is a huge outlay of capital expenditure going on at the present moment is known to all, and it would seem to us that cessation in that direction or at any rate curtailment of various programmes might well be considered. It may be that considerable reduction in expenditure on items of upkeep may also be found to be possible, and at which no one would show inclination to cavil, but the greatest care would require to be exercised, and due consideration given to the selection of particular items, so that curtailment of expense now would not result in enhanced expenditure at a later period, out of all proportion to the saving so effected. In whatever directions such economies are to be effected we seriously hope that votes for maintenance of our roads will in no way be reduced.

"Penny wise and pound foolish" is a well-known motto and would be very applicable in the case of a projected saving in the upkeep of our roads. To our minds the present maintenance votes on many roads are barely sufficient for good upkeep, and certainly do not permit of the indiscriminate use of the blue pencil. In view of the present financial position, the probability of extending the railway system of the Colony in the near future appears to be somewhat remote, and in view of this fact it behoves the Government not only to maintain, in perfect order, the present roads the very arteries of the Island, but also to extend the same in whatever direction such extensions appear to be necessary; and any reasonable steps taken by Government in this direction will, we feel sure, receive the quiet support of all communities. When the Head of the Government is represented by one who has the reputation of being an expert in matters connected with finance, it may seem presumptuous on our part to suggest ways and means whereby

additional funds necessary for the maintenance and extension of our road system can be found, but we are sure that there are many "hen roosts" in the Colony, to which the Government can turn its attention for financial aid, if the existing resources of the Colony do not admit of the usual expenditure on roads. Perhaps a temporary tax might be imposed to produce the necessary funds. By increasing the present poll tax a goodly sum could be raised, but such a tax is one that could hardly be considered, for it is borne by the poorer classes of the Colony who at the present moment can afford least of any to have their burdens added to. An income tax would doubtless bring in considerable revenue, though it is possible that the cost of collecting such revenue, might amount to such a sum as to leave but a small nett balance. We feel sure that the levying of a tax, which should fall on those who can best afford to stand it, and those who make most use of the roads, would not meet with adverse criticisms at the hands of those who have the welfare of the Colony at heart, provided such revenue is earmarked for, and used in, the directions indicated.

"THE CEYLON TEA GIFT."

Elsewhere we publish the proceedings of the Committee Meeting held on the 13th November to consider, amongst other things, the above subject. The meeting, so far as it referred to this item, was open to all who chose to attend, and it is somewhat to be regretted that more people did not avail themselves of the opportunity to discuss a question which, although not yet vital, is worthy of serious consideration.

When the idea of a "Ceylon Tea Gift" was first raised it found a ready reception in the imagination of the public. The occasion was a stirring one. Gifts many and magnificent were pouring in from all quarters of the Empire. One could almost hear the rattle of rifles, the distant rumble of artillery: one could picture the throng of the millions as they came forward to pour their spontaneous offerings into the common treasury: and one could even catch the prayers of the Dalai Lama, poor in power of deed but wealthy in kind intention. It is little to be wondered then that the feelings of the Ceylon Public were deeply moved by the announcement that the Planters had offered a million pounds of tea as a gift to the Troops. It was splendid. It was magnificent. Others might hang back—others might hesitate; but at least Ceylon was in the vanguard of patriotism; Ceylon had done something.

To make a gift, however, necessitates the power of giving; and this as things have turned out is distinctly unfortunate. The Ceylon Association in London, which represents to an enormous extent the proprietary interests of the Island, so far as we know at present does not favour the scheme. Some members of the Colombo Estate Agents' Association, somewhat naturally following suit have thrown cold water on our enthusiasm; with the result that what should have been the burden of the many must now fall upon the shoulders of the few.

When it was discovered that the idea was likely to fizzle out there was the usual storm of indignation. Angry letters appeared in the local press abusing the powers that be for failing to ascertain the sentiments of the Proprietors before making an offer. It was asked who had made the offer of 1,000,000 lbs. and as, apparently, there was no answer to this question the whole blame was thrown upon the executive of our Association. We ask our readers to study the correspondence read at the recent meeting in Kandy and they will not fail to admit that the *onus* might be laid elsewhere. In the cablegram dated the 21st August, 1914, mention was certainly made of a million lbs., but the idea was a tentative one and was so dependent on the support of the Ceylon Association in London that it is stultified by the failure of that support. Indeed, so convinced was the recent meeting that our executive was in no way to blame, that those who went to curse remained to bless, and a vote of confidence in the chair was passed unanimously.

Ceylon, however, stands committed to the offer of a million pounds of tea in the eyes of the world and our honour compels us to make good—to see that our steadily increasing list of contributions in cash and kind arrives at the correct amount. It is not permissible to publish the figures already obtained; but we may inform our readers that they are by no means as insignificant as some are disposed to imagine.

To the Colombo Town Guard we must tender our appreciation of the splendid gift of Rs. 2,500, part of the proceeds of their concert. Cannot our enthusiasts in all parts of the Island organise concerts in a similar spirit? We should like to encourage a healthy rivalry along such a line of action.

At the Committee Meeting in Kandy Mr. Sheridan Atkinson said "That there was a 'Planters' Day's Pay Fund' and he hoped that every planter would subscribe his day's pay to the Tea Gift." Why not? We are committed to the gift and surely we are in honour bound to pay it due attention. It is to be remembered that the tea is to be given to the wives and dependents of our Soldiers and Sailors. The object then is every bit as laudable as the 'Prince of Wales's Fund'; while the gift as coming from Ceylon will be red lettered in a manner never to be obtained by the occasional drafts wired home by the Local Government: Our honour is associated with the 'Tea Gift'—is one with it; and if that honour is to give precedence to other deserving funds we shall prove ourselves but a poor-spirited people.

Shall it be said that the old determination which carried the Island out of coffee into tea—which won for our community the admiration of the whole agricultural world—has departed? Shall there be a cent diverted from the project before us so long as we have that cent to spare? We are sure that there can only be one answer to these questions. It needs but the necessary impetus—a few enthusiasts in each District—to set the ball rolling; and roll on it well, gaining speed and magnitude to our own immeasurable satisfaction. We have indicated the main

way to success; and along that way we must press forward—we shall press—in our hundreds. We have this task before us and we must accomplish it: not least for the preservation of the good name of Ceylon.

"THE ENHANCED DUTY ON TEA."

It is particularly unfortunate that the tea duty is one which is so easily collected; for in crises like the present the temptation to add on a few pence is almost irresistible. Mr. Lloyd George tells us that he would have left tea alone but for the "elusive tectotaler"; and to judge by the Fort opinions, which the *Times of Ceylon* has been busily collecting, we must be thankful that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not been more rapacious. It is fourteen years since the duty was raised to eight pence, having been increased from four pence to six pence, but a short time previously. Many of our readers will remember that at the close of the Boer War a deputation from the Ceylon Association in London waited on the then Chancellor, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, with the object of convincing him that the tea duty fell more directly upon the producer than the consumer. The deputation was by no means representative; and Sir Michael refused to be convinced by its arguments. At that time the Unionist Party had not raised the Standard of Protection; and in approaching a Chancellor of such known strong opinions with a practically novel theory the deputation was foredoomed to failure. Sir Michael adroitly pointed to the indisputable fact that during the year 1900 there had been distinct signs of over-production; and, although one of its members maintained that this over-production was caused by a falling off of consumption, the Chancellor was smilingly incredulous and bowed the deputation out of his presence.

We shall be much surprised if the present occasion is not made the subject of heated controversy in the not very far future. There is certain to be a slight falling off of consumption, but this will be modified to some extent by the better statistical position of the tea market. If the present day planter does not emulate his predecessors of 1900 by plucking coarse, there is little danger of over-production; and we are of opinion that this addition of a few pence to the tea duty will lend weight to one side or other of the debate, when Tariff Reform is next mentioned in the House of Commons.

MR. JOHN STILL.

We regret that in last month's "Gazette" the writer of the notice of the departure of Mr. John Still was under the impression that Mr. John Still had resigned. This we are glad to say is not the case, as probably most of our readers are aware. Mr. Still's leave was due next year and he was allowed to anticipate this by a few months.

THE TURKISH COMPLICATION.

The intervention of Turkey may be taken as a remarkable instance of the persistence through many years of German plotting and treachery. Grouping of nations by alliance, or the less formal entente is the honourable statesman's way of securing for his country assistance, and safeguarding the national position. But we have learnt that a modern Power that was called First Class and given a honorable position in the Councils of Europe, has sought other aid in the attempt at the fulfilment of its national aspirations, by resorting to duplicity and treachery.

I will confine my remarks more especially to Turkey and its nominal province of Egypt. I have, not, in the short time at any disposal to write this article for this month's Gazette the opportunity of turning up exact dates etc., and must therefore write entirely from memory.

Prior to 1904 the principal opposition we encountered in Egypt was French. By the Anglo-French Connection of that year, we agreed to recognise French predominance in Morocco, and France agreed to recognise our predominance in Egypt. Now, strictly, politically, Germany had just as much right to a voice, an equal voice, in Egypt or Morocco as England or France, and we can understand that she was not particularly pleased at being thus ignored. But this Connection was in no way aimed at or inimical to the German position or German trade in that country, which were both of insignificant value and importance. The Convention was solely intended to remove the friction in Egypt which was so detrimental to the administration and development of that country. It was, however, specially disagreeable to Germany to see any sort of friendship establish itself between England and France. Germany was even then dreaming of the future struggle with England for world-power. What could she do? She could not sit still and see England quietly securing her position in Egypt, that land that apart from its intrinsic value, contains that artificial link between East and West of such vital political, strategical and commercial importance—the Suez Canal, and rouse, through Turkey, the Moslem world. I believe that even then Potsdam conceived that colossal and amazing plot that has recently engulfed Turkey. That was ten years ago. There was, about that time, as Turkish Military Attaché in Berlin, a clever and ambitious Turk named Enver Bey. He was destined to become Germany's tool. His ambition was fired by soft German voices which told him that Turkey was a tottering Empire and sorely needed a Saviour. It is thus not difficult to imagine a young, enthusiastic and ambitious soldier, flattered by Potsdam, soon led to dream that he was destined to be his country's Regenerator. Encouraged by promises of gold, political support, and the loan of expert officers, Enver returned to Constantinople. Four years later—about 1908—he had become strong enough to bring about the Turkish Revolution, depose the Sultan and make himself the virtual Dictator of Turkey. Now was the time for Germany to reap her reward, and for the past six years she has taken the fullest advantage that opportunity and

her alliance with Enver gave her. She officered the Army. The so-called commercial concessions in Asia Minor and elsewhere were mere "blinds" to explain the presence of Germans in districts where otherwise their presence would be wholly inexplicable. How can anyone with the smallest sense of business see any Commercialism in some of the Concessions in Turkey. Could any investor see any security or profit for the large capital expended by Germany in the railway and other schemes in Asia Minor—railways the project into space with no traffic possible for years to even pay expenses, and planned to districts where Germany hadn't an ounce of existing political or commercial interest.

But everything was being sacrificed for the "Day" Germany was making for herself the opportunities while she was to boldly use when the Day came. The Day has come, and we know how Germany has used and is using these opportunities. What does she care for the consequences to Turkey? Constantinople, even Enver himself—driven, bullied and harassed by German officers, is now in the throes of war. Poor Turkey! She has been kept on her legs by the jealousies of the members of the great Concert of Europe. Now she must take her chance. The expression Balkan States has, I think, ever conveyed, even to the most stay-at-home, the idea of turbulence and restless fighting. I once passed through part of the Balkans and I can most emphatically state that that idea was very definitely confirmed in me. Turkey is in a hopeless position in Europe. There is not a state in that part of Europe that is not itching to fight her. They wouldn't mind a bit fighting each other any time and for any excuse, but above all they would like to fight Turkey. And this time there is no Concert of Europe to put out a restraining hand. They will not stop within a few miles of Constantinople as they did in the recent Balkan war. I have no doubt these Balkan States are, before acting, already eagerly seeking the approval of the Allies as to the way the spoils should be divided, and it can hardly be doubted under the circumstances, that they will secure some approved scheme. Then the dogs of war will be loosed in that Peninsula where the dogs of war have never really been on the chain.

I have not been able to deal with Egypt in this article. The position in that Country is intensely interesting and may deal with it in a subsequent article.

15th November, 1914.

H. J. TEMPLE.

NAMES OF MEMBERS OF THE 1ST CEYLON CONTINGENT.

Roll of Contingent Company C. P. R. C.

COMPANY STAFF.

Major J. Hall Brown, Commanding
 Captain A. M. Blair
 Lieut. C. Schofield (Supernumerary Officer)
 Lieut. W. Fergusson (do do)
 Company Sergeant Major A. O. Trefusis
 Company Quarter Master Sergeant A. D. Morley
 Sergeant Major Instructor H. Jobson

No. 1 PLATOON.

Captain A. C. E. S. Bowlby (Commanding)

No. 1731	Sergeant	W. McColloch (Platoon Sergeant)
" 541	Sergeant	H. F. C. Horsfall
" 1718	Lc-Sergt.	W. H. Morrison
" 324	Corporal	C. J. Lendrum
" 1706	Lc-Corpl.	H. H. Massey
" 1771	do	G. W. Hornsby
" 1844	do	W. E. Hobday
" 1259	Bugler	T. W. Horne
" 2194	Rifleman	G. Adams
" 2214	do	F. A. Baxter
" 2012	do	R. M. Bear
" 2168	do	P. F. H. Bayly
" 1768	do	H. W. Byrde
" 2243	do	J. Buchan-Hepburn
" 1689	do	N. Cosby
" 2192	do	V. F. S. Crawford
" 2074	do	H. A. Carlisle
" 578	do	A. C. Cunningham
" 800	do	A. H. G. Campbell
" 1983	do	A. H. Footner
" 2001	do	G. B. Hyatt
" 1644	do	E. L. Hatte
" 2248	do	F. J. Heasman
" 1579	do	J. F. Keith
" 1488	do	T. F. Lucas
" 1865	do	H. G. Inglis
" 1960	do	L. Lewin
" 2256	do	E. L. Lucas
" 825	do	W. H. Lowry
" 729	do	G. H. Loughnam
" 1963	do	H. R. S. M. Masson
" 1968	do	W. W. Martin
" 1721	do	F. B. Muir
" 1985	do	H. Mason
" 2168	do	H. T. Marshall
" 1964	do	A. H. Marshall
" 1761	do	B. P. Macdonald
" 2123	do	A. L. Moore
" 2022	do	G. Middlemiss
" 2204	do	H. B. Paine
" 2093	do	B. G. M. B. Patridge
" 2199	do	A. le P. Jones
" 1781	do	G. T. Roberts
" 1912	do	S. M. Smyth
" 2085	do	C. E. Smith
" 2252	do	C. Reith
" 2181	do	E. A. Tarbet
" 2138	do	H. Underhill
" 1887	do	H. H. Wiles
" 1988	do	G. Wreford
" 1852	do	C. E. Williams
" 1594	do	D. A. Wilkinson
" 1574	do	C. K. Young
" 1597	do	T. G. May
" 613	do	H. C. C. Cowell

No. 2 PLATOON.

Lieutenant H. C. Toller (Commanding)

No. 1734 Sergeant H. Hopwood (Platoon Sergeant)

" 1962	do	N. V. Forrest
" 1634	Corporal	F. R. Mitchell
" 1409	do	H. G. Wace
" 1861	do	J. C. Holmes
" 1542	Lc-Corpl	C. B. Loudon Shand
" 2256	do	C. E. Hawes
" 1485	do	P. A. Cornish
" 2032	Bugler	A. F. Weymss
" 1932	Rifleman	R. Andrews
" 1895	do	E. G. Bantock
" 1826	do	A. G. Clutterbuck
" 2035	do	C. A. Copland
" 1945	do	G. Fenning
" 2163	do	A. Forrest
" 1589	do	E. L. Fraser
" 1792	do	W. L. S. Gwatkin
" 1868	do	T. E. L. Gethin
" 2087	do	D. Gilmour
" 2046	do	A. Hadden
" 2175	do	W. Hume-Spry
" 1816	do	E. Johnson
" 2145	do	G. G. A. Kerr
" 879	do	G. J. Knowles
" 2003	do	C. P. Lawrence
" 2005	do	J. Legget
" 779	do	A. N. Lushington
" 1753	do	A. W. F. Mills
" 2031	do	J. W. Nicholas
" 1923	do	C. M. Pickthall
" 1490	do	A. J. M. Reeves
" 1898	do	J. A. Rennie
" 1999	do	P. J. Rolt
" 1730	do	D. Rose
" 1664	do	H. F. Russell
" 2010	do	W. J. Short
" 1967	do	C. Sealy
" 2238	do	E. Sonck
" 2239	do	O. Sonck
" 2190	do	F. B. D. Stalker
" 1720	do	T. D. Sutherland
" 820	do	A. Saxton
" 2103	do	C. G. Taubman
" 809	do	A. K. Tarbet
" 822	do	A. M. G. Trotter
" 1848	do	B. R. Woodward
" 1849	do	G. R. H. Williams
" 2217	do	N. J. Westland
" 1581	do	C. D. Wooldridge
" 2028	do	L. N. Were
" 2209	do	H. M. Woodyer
" 889	do	J. W. Brameld
" 2188	do	B. W. Hargreaves
" 621	do	H. A. Clark

No. 3 PLATOON.

Captain A. N. Galbraith (Commander)

No. 1388 Sergeant C. S. Agar (Platoon Sergeant)

„ 1224 do W. F. Hannin
 „ 2144 Lt-Sergt. C. M. Horsfall
 „ 1618 Corporal C. B. Rubie
 „ 1627 Lt-Corpl. E. G. Hodgson
 „ 1703 do W. W. A. Phillips
 „ 1759 do F. P. Newbury
 „ 789 Bugler T. C. Duguid
 „ 747 Rifleman E. M. Allfrey
 „ 2113 do D. M. Buchanan
 „ 2128 do A. L. Bainbridge
 „ 1794 do R. G. R. Badoock
 „ 803 do R. C. Broune
 „ 711 do G. D. Brown
 „ 840 do I. H. M. Clark
 „ 2077 do D. F. P. Coles
 „ 2196 do W. J. Davy
 „ 2253 do R. C. B. Derry
 „ 2246 do H. R. Davey
 „ 2106 do E. W. Fisher
 „ 2183 do O. P. Gwyntne
 „ 2254 do D. V. Gibson
 „ 1742 do R. W. Gosney
 „ 1449 do W. J. C. Gibson
 „ 1989 do V. E. Goss
 „ 1979 do H. M. Hathorn
 „ 2116 do G. W. Huntington
 „ 1616 do G. H. R. Hoare
 „ 1690 do J. H. J. Lang
 „ 2065 do W. J. Lock
 „ 1549 do M. Layton
 „ 2134 do H. G. Montgomerie
 „ 2086 do R. E. Martin
 „ 1452 do H. W. Milligan
 „ 490 do K. R. Maitland
 „ 865 do W. H. Nicholson
 „ 2167 do R. S. McClintock
 „ 2008 do C. Owen
 „ 2208 do H. S. Powell
 „ 1965 do C. H. K. Phillips
 „ 1738 do J. F. Postance
 „ 2166 do V. F. C. Peto
 „ 2205 do L. W. Peach
 „ 1913 do R. Pickering
 „ 2150 do J. Robertson
 „ 2097 do G. C. Sloane-Stanley
 „ 1599 do F. C. Sprinks
 „ 2179 do F. M. Troup
 „ 604 do A. W. L. Turner
 „ 2250 do C. G. Thornton
 „ 2204 do J. E. Wolch
 „ 2237 do H. L. Williams
 „ 2039 do G. H. Whitfield
 „ 2255 do H. G. N. Yates
 „ 2007 do T. L. Kenion

No. 4 PLATOON.

2nd Lieut. R. Benzie (Commander)

No. 1367 Sergeant G. Goe, (Platoon Sergeant)

„ 1125 do R. G. Simmonds
 „ 1598 Corporal J. M. Grant
 „ 1803 do E. G. Bland
 „ 1875 do T. C. Dyball
 „ 1693 Lt-Corpl. C. Mc L. Miller
 „ 1649 do W. Jeal
 „ 1798 do H. H. Sloane-Stanley
 „ 718 Bugler R. T. Thornton
 „ 2158 Rifleman A. P. J. Armstrong
 „ 799 do J. R. Ainslie
 „ 856 do A. W. Bowles
 „ 735 do C. D. Bright
 „ 1973 do R. C. Bolster
 „ 1794 do E. L. Banfield
 „ 1748 do W. R. Cheshire
 „ 1951 do A. J. B. Chester
 „ 1888 do R. A. Cranfield
 „ 1723 do G. A. Donald
 „ 2074 do C. R. Dawson
 „ 1897 do F. Davie
 „ 2138 do H. P. Evans
 „ 2161 do T. G. Edwards
 „ 675 do P. Eardley Wilmot
 „ 847 do L. W. C. Fradd
 „ 1811 do H. F. R. Fordyce
 „ 1391 do H. A. Ford
 „ 1850 do J. Godley
 „ 2139 do P. Gourd
 „ 1752 do A. Grant
 „ 2107 do A. J. Gripper
 „ 887 do N. N. Hearsey
 „ 732 do S. V. Husluck
 „ 2255 do J. T. Harrison
 „ 880 do H. Johnstone
 „ 748 do H. M. C. Ledger
 „ 1827 do C. M. Morris
 „ 2247 do C. J. B. Miller Sterling
 „ 859 do R. C. B. Newlad
 „ 2113 do R. A. Paterson
 „ 2251 do H. D. Robinson
 „ 1785 do H. Raymond Barker
 „ 2241 do D. G. Raeburn
 „ 1747 do T. W. Rainbow
 „ 1948 do P. Smith
 „ 2199 do J. Smith
 „ 866 do C. W. F. Scott
 „ 1873 do R. D. Thompson
 „ 2073 do F. C. Tomant
 „ 2000 do C. W. G. Taylor
 „ 1905 do J. Walker
 „ 357 do B. A. W. Wilson
 „ 1795 do G. E. Overbury
 „ 862 do R. A. Rendell
 „ 1828 do D. M. Baker

NOTES AND CUTTINGS ON THE WAR.

BENGAL LANCERS IN ACTION.

WHIRLWIND CHARGE BY THE INDIAN CAVALRY.

WOUNDED SOLDIER'S STORY.

Passed by the Press Bureau.

"The last sight I saw was the charge of the Bengal Lancers. It happened one day when the enemy had been pressing us hard all along the line. We had been at it hammer and tongs for three weeks, and were feeling the strain. Towards nightfall the enemy kept pressing closer and closer. Their plan seemed to be to break our line at the point where they guessed our men to be most exhausted.

"Supported by artillery a brigade of their infantry was flung at us, and we braced ourselves for what we thought was coming. Just when they were half-way towards our trenches, the Indians, who had arrived the day before, and were anxious to get into it, were brought up. Fine fellows they looked as they passed us on their fine chargers, and we broke into cheers. They smiled back grimly.

"At the word of command they swept forward, only making a slight detour to get out of our line of fire, and then they went into the Germans from the left like a whirlwind. The enemy were completely taken aback. The Turcos they knew, but these men, with their flashing eyes, dark skins, and white gleaming teeth; not to mention their terribly keen-edged lances, they could not understand. The Indians didn't give them much time to arrive at an understanding. With a shrill yell they rode right through the German infantry, thrusting right and left with their terrible lances, and bringing a man down every time. The Germans broke and ran for their lives, pursued by the lancers for about a mile. When the Indians came back from their charge they were cheered wildly all along our line, but they didn't think much of what they had done. 'It wasn't so exciting as pig-sticking,' said one."—(Corporal George Cole, R.F.A., who has returned to Aberdeen wounded.)—"Home Paper."

THE INDIAN TROOPS.

THEIR FIRST ENGAGEMENT.

"RAN THROUGH THEM."

London, Tuesday.—The "Daily Telegraph" correspondent in Northern France, wiring yesterday, gives the following account of the Indian troops in action:—

The Germans were pressing our front strongly. The trenches round La Basse were heavily shelled. Suddenly an "avalanche of men" fell upon a section of the line near La Basse. Rank after rank of the incoming mass was wiped out by the fire of our entrenched infantry, but as one man fell another took his place. The rush was irresistible and

The Trench was Carried.

the men in it doing their duty to the last. Troops were hurried up to reinforce, but before they could repair the broken line a horde of Germans had rushed forward, confi-

dent, no doubt, that they had found the way to the coast. They had a rude awakening. The supports of the British line were Indian troops. It was the first time they had been in action in the campaign. They had been thirsting to prove their quality. For days they had heard at no great distance the roar of guns and had watched the puffs of bursting shrapnel. It had interested them, and had whetted their appetite for a soldier's work, and right well they acquitted themselves. If anyone had any fears as to how the Indian troops would behave against disciplined Europeans—and the history of the native regiments should have prevented any misgivings—their doubts should now be dispelled, for the turbaned warriors displayed a

Bravery and Dash

equal to anything done in this war. Could there be higher praise?

It was forward with the bayonet. No Frenchmen who loves "La Rosalie" could have met the foe with greater eagerness. The forces came together and clashed. In an instant, my friend tells me, the issue was decided. The German advance was not checked and stopped. It was beaten and broken. The enemy turned to retreat. The Indians ran through them, using the steel in their own workman-like fashion, and forcing the foe back to receive right and left the fire of British infantry who awaited their coming. Up to the trench which the Germans had gained.

It was Slaughter.

The Indians did not stop at the trench they re-won for the Allies, but leaping it pursued the enemy down a hill until their officers thought it prudent to recall them. In returning, they passed over a bloody field just as proud of the part they had played for the Empire as the British Tommies were of them.—"Home Paper."

HOW 500 SCOTS GUARDSMEN ROUTED 5,000 GERMANS.

"The hottest fight we were in was one day when we had to face the attack of a whole German brigade. There were only two companies available for the task, and the Germans came on with great swagger, thinking it would be the easiest thing in the world for from 5,000 to 8,000 men to walk over 500. They came on with easy confidence, and as soon as they came abreast the order to fire was given. A dull red blaze shot across our front. I saw a whole line go down under that deadly hail. Again there was a quick rattle and the same sheet of flame.

"After re-dressing, the Germans were within 100 yards. 'Fix bayonets!' came the hoarse order of our officers. We obeyed, and then we received the Germans on a bright line of steel. The shock was terrific, but we didn't yield an inch, and as they retired to think it over we made one desperate charge. They broke and fled, and the day was won."—(Story told by a sergeant of the Scots Guards who has been invalided home.)—"Home Paper."

THE "GREAT GERMAN ASSET."

Of all that great programme the braggarts have accomplished next to nothing in material progress, less than nothing in moral. One capital they have entered—Brussels

—but the triumph of occupation which leaves the Belgian Army intact is an empty triumph. "Rapidly of action is the great German asset," said Herr von Jagow to Sir Edward Goschen, on the eve of the rupture with England. "The great German asset" has been a dismal failure, and the cost to Germany runs into colossal figures. In killed her losses are computed not less than 250,000; in wounded and prisoners 750,000; while the money cost is over £200,000,000. One "condition of success" according to the German code has been observed, though not with the expected result. "Above all," said Bismark, "you must inflict on the inhabitants of invaded towns the maximum suffering, so that they become sick of the struggle, and may bring pressure to bear on their Government to discontinue it. You must leave the people through whom you march only their eyes to weep with." In that respect the Germans have done their level best; and, confronted by the result, they themselves boast they have other things to do than to weep for the fate which Belgium has "brought upon herself." The Germans have won solid domination in brutality and theft.

Boasts of the Sea.

Their boasting still goes on. Herr Pfleger, the Reporter of the German Naval Budget, has just stated that, the German fleet will reserve for the British the fate of the Spanish Armada, and that Germany will conquer by sea as on land. This country is more and more the objective in the German prophetic mind. The military power of England, we are assured, will be broken in France; and of course her maritime supremacy is "paralysed" by the pre-eminent ability of Germany's naval forces. Just as they boasted that one big defeat would rob France of her nerve and lead to the creation of a new Ministry which would sue for peace, so they hint at surprises in store which will overthrow England completely. Their boasts have to be revised from time to time. They did not really get to Paris on August 20th, or to London a fortnight later. When the march to Paris became a retreat they discovered that Calais was the true goal of their desire. As soon as the German rear and right flank in Belgium are quite free the German people are promised that direct pressure will be made on England. They pin their faith to the 17-inch howitzers, and believe the conquest of England to be easy from Calais. Our Navy, by the way, was not to be able to participate in the land battles around Ostend for fear of the German heavy-calibre guns! The "glorious" German fleet, which has hitherto skulked out of sight, is to sail away from the Kiel Canal and take England, say the braggarts. Another notion is that the German army will begin a second march on Paris, that the British will desert them, and that the Republic will tear itself to pieces in civil war. One boast, however, they have stopped repeating. We no longer hear that German financial credit is better than ours. And they are far from enthusiastic about the condition of German commerce. They have also made a lame effort to deny the Kaiser's supremely boastful reference to the "contemptible little" British Army. Little by little, it may be hoped, the whole truth will dawn upon the braggarts, though

they will not acknowledge until they must that the measure has been taken of the German mission to free the universe from "the nightmare of English world-oppression." "Home Paper."

This poem has already appeared in the local dailies but we publish it in the hopes that some of our readers may not have already seen it.

THE DAY.

By Henry Chappell.

[The author of this magnificent poem is Mr. Henry Chappell, a railway porter at Bath. Mr. Chappell is known to his comrades as the "Bath Railway Poet." A poem such as this lifts him to the rank of a national poet.]

You boasted the Day, and you toasted the Day,
And now the Day has come.
Blasphemer, braggart and coward all,
Little you reck of the numbing ball,
The blasting shell, or the "white arm's" fall,
As they speed poor humans home.

You spied for the Day, you lied for the Day,
And woke the Day's red spleen.
Monster, who asked God's aid Divine,
Then strewed His seas with the ghastly mine;
Not all the waters of all the Rhine
Can wash thy foul hands clean.

You dreamed for the Day, you schemed for the Day;
Watch how the Day will go.
Slayer of age and youth and prime
(Defenceless slain for never a crime)
Thou art steeped in blood as a hog in slime,
False friend and cowardly foe.

You have sown for the Day, you have grown for the Day;
Yours is the Harvest red.
Can you hear the groans and the awful cries?
Can you see the heap of slain that lies,
And sightless turned to the flame-split skies
The glassy eyes of the dead?

You have wronged for the Day, you have longed for the Day
That lit the awful flame.
'Tis nothing to you that hill and plain
Yield sheaves of dead men amid the grain;
That widows mourn for their loved ones slain,
And mothers curse thy name.

But after the Day there's a price to pay
For the sleepers under the sod,
And He you have mocked for many a day—
Listen, and hear what He has to say:
"Vengeance is mine, I will repay."

What can you say to God?

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CEYLON TEA GIFT

SEND ALONG A CONTRIBUTION

— AND —

INDUCE YOUR FRIENDS

TO DO THE SAME.

DO IT NOW!!!

TEA.

Instructions for marking and despatching Tea for the Gift.

1. All chests should be marked "Ceylon Tea Gift."
2. The Estate's name (if an estate gift) or the donor's name (if a private gift) should be marked on each package.
3. The gross and net weight of each package should be clearly marked thereon.
4. Consign all contributions of tea to the Chamber of Commerce, Colombo

CASH.

Those who cannot give tea but wish to subscribe to the gift are invited to send Cash, which will be devoted to purchasing tea and paying for the freight and other charges in respect of all contributions of tea.

Cash subscriptions should be sent to the Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon, who will send an acknowledgment of the same to each subscriber.

HEW KENNEDY,

Actg. Secy., P. A. of Ceylon.

THE QUESTION OF MANURE SUPPLIES.

We have had a large number of inquiries from firms this side of the water *re* the output of potash, nitrate of soda and other manures, the writers wishing to know:—

(1) -Can we get supplies from the local agents near our estates?

(2) Will further shipments go out from the mines?

(3) Will prices be changed to any important extent?

In reply to the above we have written to the agents abroad to ascertain what supply they have, and how long these will hold out. Of potash we can give no news, except that no supplies can be obtained from the mines until the conclusion of the war. This, we believe (touching wood to avoid ill-luck befalling the Allies for saying so), cannot last very long, but until the mines are working again we can only refer our readers to the advice given further on, as how to make up, by local supplies, the deficiency from the mines in Europe. Regarding nitrate of soda, however, there is no shortage at any of the depôts, and those likely to need supplies in the near future would be wise to place their orders freely at once before hostilities cease, for directly the war is over the demand from Europe alone to make up for lost time will be enormous. Should the war last only another three months even, it will be at least as long again before orders will be given out, and then from 500,000 to perhaps 750,000 tons may be bespoken for European use, with the result that prices during the rush must increase, as has been the case with potash where sellers have got caught without supplies. By the time our October number is out we shall have heard from the various depôts and agents overseas, and can then inform planters where and to what extent, they can rely for supplies of potash, and the price it is likely to cost. Two of the potash mines are in Alsatia, but whether supplies can be obtained from them sooner than from the chief centres in Germany remains to be seen. It is certainly important for planters that supplies should be got out as soon as possible, and we feel sure that the Allies will do all they can to help the planters in the Tropics who have rallied so splendidly to help them.

Meanwhile we noted with interest, a little time back the issue, for the eleventh year, of Mr. Brodie James' interesting booklet, "Nitrate Facts and Figures." This contains the usual interesting matter for shareholders and others interested in Chilean nitrate of soda, whilst two new items are added, viz., the average price of nitrate f.o.b. Chili for the past seven years, and the highest and lowest quotations and dividends of the English companies for the past six years. In his preface Mr. James states that the recent Restriction or Production did not produce the result anticipated, and is not likely to be repeated. We presume that the result anticipated was a reduced output, and it seems evident that if nothing had been done there would have been an increase equal to the amount restricted, say, 2,000,000 quintals, more or less. As to the likelihood of a repetition of the restriction the present state, not only of Europe, but of the whole nitrate-buying world renders one unable to offer any opinion. The enormous requirements

that Europe alone needs, being completely checked, *pro tem*, will of itself greatly restrict the output from the mines so we must now sit up and wait for peace to see what orders are sent over the wires directly the armies are broken up and the merchant, the land-owner, and the tiller of the soil return to their work.

Discussing nitrates reminds us that those who are suffering from a curtailment of their supplies of potash, the absence of which is likely to continue for some little time, will do well to remember the great part that the soda content of nitrate of soda plays in freeing the potash in the soil, and making it available for absorption by the growing crops. Various papers interesting in agriculture have been calling attention to this, and directly the trouble started on the Continent the Board of Agriculture, now one of the most wide-awake of our departments, called the attention of agriculturists to the experiments carried out at Rothamsted and elsewhere which proved that soda has the power of liberating potash in the manner described; and with mangolds and barley the beneficial action arising from the use of soda has been most marked. We believe it was Dr. Russell who in his book on "Fertilisers and Manures," told us that "for twenty-five years the use of nitrate of soda alone has enabled the soil to supply a mangold crop with the large amount of potash it needs." Since this is so, the amount of nitrate of soda applied to areas under crops in the Tropics will undoubtedly be increased, and those have not yet made use of this means of increasing their supply of available potash in the soil will do well to do so. Meanwhile, of course, the ash of any rubbish that is burnt, as on coconut cacao and other estates, must be preserved for use as occasion demands, and not merely left on the ground as is generally done. Now-a-days all wise planters "clear up" and burn regularly once a week, if not oftener, and those doing so will find that quite an important quantity of ash can be collected for mixing with other fertilising material. Those who cut down or grub up their cotton plants to avoid the carrying over of pests, who cut out prickly pear and other prescribed weeds, or who heavily prune their tea plants will certainly be able to secure a considerable quantity of ash that will be quite valuable in these days. "Tropical Life."

SUBSTITUTES FOR ACETIC ACID FOR COAGULATION PURPOSES.

With reference to the article produced on page 628 of the *Chronicle* dealing with this subject Messrs. Parry & Co. of Madras write me that they note that there may be a possibility of using Sulphuric Acid as a coagulant and they remind me that they are manufacturers of this acid. They would probably be prepared to issue a guarantee as to the purity of their acid from metals and metallic salts were this asked for. They state that the acid is packed in stone-ware jars and wooden cases: each jar contains 42 lbs. of acid and two jars are packed in each case. The price is one anna nine pies per lb. f.o.r. Ranipet, packing charges extra.

This acid is fully concentrated, and herein lies one of the chief objections to Sulphuric Acid as a coagulant. It is difficult and dangerous stuff to handle and dilute in large quantities. However, should other coagulants fail the

information here noted may prove useful and it is therefore recorded.

A correspondent sends me some interesting notes of his experience with different coagulants for Ceará latex. Probably much the same results would be obtained with Hevea latex.

Of all the coagulants he has used he prefers Formic Acid or Formalin as giving the least trouble and the best results, but as was pointed out in the Rubber Growers' Association Report the same difficulty arises with Formic Acid as in the case of Acetic Acid, supplies are short and the price has increased.

Sulphuric Acid he finds all right but not an easy coagulant to mix or handle. Tannic acid he finds useless.

Among salts he reports Barium Sulphate is unsatisfactory; Sodium sulphate rather too erratic; and Potassium sulphate also unsatisfactory.

The best results were obtained with Aluminium Sulphate (Alum) and Ammonium Sulphate. The former is difficult to dissolve and slow in action, but it gives a wet rubber which is strong, and velvety in appearance. The strength recommended is $\frac{1}{2}$ dr. in 60 oz. water to 36 oz. of latex. Sulphate of Ammonia he finds the best of all this class of coagulants. He makes a stock solution of 2 oz. of Sulphate in 16 oz. water and dilutes $1\frac{1}{2}$ drs. of this with 50 oz. of water for 40 oz. of latex.

I hope other planters will let me have the results of their experience with coagulants other than Acetic Acid for publication in these columns.

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,
in the "Planters' Chronicle."

STUMP ROT IN TEA.

An enquiry has recently been made as to the best method of procedure to deal with an attack of root disease on a Tea estate. Root diseases often begin near the old decaying stump of a tree, either one of the original jungle stumps, or a shade tree which has died, or been purposely killed. Whenever possible such stumps should be removed altogether with as many roots as possible. Where this is not possible a trench at least three feet deep should be dug completely round the stump and kept open till the stump has entirely decayed.

When the disease attacks a tea bush this latter should be dug out, with as many roots as possible, and burned. If the disease is spreading and forming a patch it is advisable to isolate this patch by means of a trench, enclosing all the diseased bushes and a ring of apparently healthy ones also on its boundaries, the soil taken out of the trench being thrown into the enclosed area.

Where a dead bush has been removed the soil should be forked up to a depth of two or three feet and heaped up and unslaked lime mixed with it. The heap should be left exposed to the air and sun throughout the dry season. At the same time the soil in the diseased patch should be well forked up and unslaked lime at the rate of two lbs. per square yard applied. It is also advisable to improve the drainage of such areas.

The length of time which should elapse before such infected patches can be safely replanted depends upon the extent of the infection. As a rule if the soil is forked over again, and slaked lime applied to it at the end of the dry season supplies put in will grow successfully. If the infection was very bad, however, and all the roots and dead and diseased wood in it were not removed these supplies are apt to be attacked again, in which case the process must be repeated for another year.

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,
in the "Planters' Chronicle."

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya, on November 12th, 1914.

Present:—The Director of Agriculture (in the Chair); the Manager, Peradeniya Experiment Station (Secretary); the Government Entomologist; the Mycologist and Botanist; the Rubber Research Chemist; the Manager, Dry Zone Experiment Station; the Assistant Botanist and Mycologist; the Superintendent, Botanic Gardens; Messrs. H. Inglis, M. L. Wilkins, A. S. Long Price, H. F. Laycock, R. Huyshe Eliot, Mudaliyar A. E. de S. Rajapaksa, Messrs. C. E. G. Pandittesekera, A. W. Beven, G. H. Masefield, N. G. Campbell, W. N. Tisdall; and Messrs. Alvaro de Noronha e. Castro, K. B. Beddewela, D. J. Blyth, as visitors.

Referring to the last minutes the Chairman stated that arrangements had been made to manufacture our green-leaf into made tea at the rate of $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents, 11 cents manufacture and $1\frac{1}{2}$ transport and brokerage. This would leave us a profit considerably over that now realised by selling the green leaf at present low rates.

The Committee were of opinion that this charge was high, 10 cents delivered in Colombo from Up-country not being an unusual one. It was therefore resolved to try and obtain more favourable terms, say 11 cents delivered in Colombo.

The Chairman called the notice of the Committee to the new Regulations re Shot-hole borer in tea, and circulated copies. Several members had not seen the regulations and it was suggested that the "Planters' Gazette" might be asked to reproduce them. The Chairman replied that this should be done. Up to date only 3 notifications had been received.

2. The Chairman referred to the Progress Reports of Gangarowa and Anuradhapura Experiment Station which had been circulated and thought they both contained very useful records and much interesting information. In Anuradhapura 103 plots had been laid out, of which 90 were already sown with various products.

3. The Chairman stated that the Government contemplated transferring the Dairy Farm at Ambepussa and asked the opinion of the Committee on the suitability of the site for an experiment Station.

Mr. Masefield pointed out that it was a centre of plantain cultivation. Coconuts were also mentioned. After discussion the Committee concluded that as it was so

far from the Station and in an unhealthy locality, it was not a suitable site for an experiment station.

4. The Chairman referred to the resolution passed last meeting that the Government be asked to permit the erection of plant necessary for making crude acetic acid irrespective of existing patents, and read a letter from the Government and a cable from the Secretary of State in reply thereto. The discussion turned on the difference between patenting a principle and an apparatus for applying a principle. Pyroligneous acid had been distilled since the middle ages and people could not, the Chairman thought, be prevented by any patent from distilling it now. On the other hand it was pointed out by Mr. Huyshe Eliot that a new tapping process involving the scraping of the bark of the tree had recently been patented. The power of any patent to prevent people scraping trees before tapping them was however also questioned.

Mr. Masfield said he did not think that there was now any pressing necessity for pursuing the experiment now that acetic acid could be obtained in ample quantities from England. Even if the acid could be produced locally a little cheaper its purity and strength would not be guaranteed as in the case of the home product and the standardisation of rubber would be still further endangered. The Chairman quoted Professor Armstrong's opinion that Ceylon should be able to manufacture all the acetic acid she required and to supply the whole East and thought the question of local supplies of coagulants should be followed up. He tabled a statement showing what was being done with acetic acid, coconut vinegar, coconut water, cocoa juice in various parts of the Island. Mr. Petch explained with regard to "*Withaneu Coagulants*" that had been mentioned by the Press that the species found in Ceylon was "*W. Somnifera*" which, however, also possessed coagulating properties.

The following were the Chairman's notes on coagulants:—

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

From 10 lbs. dry coconut shell there were obtained about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tar and $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 lb. crude pyroligneous acid (containing about 12 per cent acetic acid.)

This, after separating from tar and filtering, is made up for use by adding 1 vol. to 9 of water and adding 16 oz. of the mixture to every gallon latex.

TODDY VINEGAR.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

In the Department of Agriculture laboratory an experiment was made with vinegar. One sample was satisfactorily coagulated, the proportion used being 3 oz. toddy vinegar to 1 gallon latex (8 lb. dry rubber per gallon.) This coagulation was lengthy and took several hours. When 4 oz. per gallon latex were used, coagulation was complete in two hours.

EXPERIMENTS BY MR. C. E. A. DIAS.

Who found that best results were obtained by using 3 oz. of toddy vinegar to 1 gallon latex.

27 gallons for 1 ton costing	... Rs. 30
against 1 gallon $1\frac{1}{6}$ pint per	
ton of glacial acetic acid costing	... Rs. 15

COCONUT WATER.

PALLAKELLE ESTATE.

The water from the coconuts broken for copra is collecting and left in a chatty for four days. The nuts have not been stored for any considerable time before breaking, probably about three weeks.

Active fermentation takes place and the liquid becomes markedly acid to the taste. The chatties are not closed and consequently the gas produced escapes.

The liquid is used on the fourth and fifth day after collecting. The rubber conductor at Pallakelle is of opinion that it becomes less and if kept longer. This is a point which requires investigation.

About 2 oz. of the liquid are added to one pint (20) ounces of pure latex. No water is added. Coagulation is complete in about an hour.

The rubber prepared in this way is a better colour than that coagulated with the liquid from fermenting cacao.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Every one part of coconut water will coagulate only 3 to 6 parts of latex, according to the strength of the acid.

NORTH MATALE ESTATE.

Coconut water (water inside coconuts): water is left for a week to ferment, of the fermented water one bottle is mixed with 25 bottles of latex which is left for 24 hours for coagulation.

A COCONUT ACID.

Experiments by Mr. Arthur E. Byrde, Seenigodde, Ambalangoda. 8 oz. of the coagulant and one oz. of water to 30 oz. of latex. Coagulation in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

PURE WATER.

NORTH MATALE ESTATE.

Pure cold water: for every 25 bottles of latex one of pure cold water is mixed, the whole being left for 30 hours for coagulation.

A NEW COAGULANT.

Discovered by Dr. H. I. Fernando was the product of a smoking process he was using. Four ounce of the liquid to a gallon of latex was used. Expenses to smoke 60 lbs. was not more than 75 cents for the materials only, exclusive of labour.

Mr. Campbell then read the following notes on acetic acid:—

"In considering the possible local sources of acetic acid which could provide us with some forms of substitute for the imported article it is important to bear in mind two facts:—

"(1) That a factory for the production of sufficient quantities of pure acetic acid would take some time to establish were sufficient capital forthcoming; and

"(2) That the transport question must therefore occupy a very large amount of our attention in considering the forms of acid, necessarily dilute, producible locally.

"We must therefore be careful to distinguish as to whether we are judging a coagulant as merely utilisable in the immediate neighbourhood of the place where it is produced, or whether we are on the other hand claiming that its coagulating power is sufficiently high to render its use possible in districts far distant from the place of production, that is to say will it pay for transport?"

"In some districts it appears that sufficient coconut water is immediately available to coagulate the local output of latex, the proportion of fermented coconut water to latex coagulated being 1 to 20.

On the other hand the large estates of Kalutara and Kelani Valley could certainly not depend on the use of this coagulant as the cost of transport would be too high even were the necessary coconut water or cocoa juice available in the Island.

"Many estates would require more than 40 gallons of coconut water per diem.

"On the other hand where this liquid is obtainable in sufficient quantity on the estate a double service is rendered to the industry, the estate is saved the money necessary to purchase acetic acid whilst the demand for the latter article is thereby decreased, thus making it more readily available for estates on which its use is necessary.

"On the other hand it seems that the production of a fairly strong acid (12 per cent.) is attended with no great difficulties and would certainly pay for transport.

"Its use is at present however almost limited to the preparation of smoked rubber owing to the darkness of the crude acid. In order satisfactorily to produce pale crepe, a colourless coagulant must be utilised. The manufacture of a colourless acetic acid locally will necessitate the erection of acetic acid plant in some part of the Island. A scheme is at present under consideration, or the continued use of acetic acid as long as it is available and after that of other coagulants such as Bush's powder as they may subsequently be found procurable. This applies only to estates where local colourless coagulants cannot be procurable.

"Toddy vinegar must be regarded in the light of an emergency coagulant, as its cost is somewhat high.

"We have therefore a double task before us:—

"(1) To find out how estates can utilise coagulants which can be used on the spot.

"(2) To find a coagulant which is worth making and transporting to estates which cannot obtain or make suitable coagulants locally.

"The great advantage attending the use of pure acetic acid is that it assists standardisation, a claim which can hardly be made for dilute acids of variable strength."

6. Mr. Beven wished to postpone for the present the subject against his name, namely, the necessity for an experimental coconut plot on hard, gravelly soil owing to the necessity of retrenchments.

7. The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Beddewela urging the necessity of Government opening a factory for the manufacture of cocaine as the market for leaf had seriously fallen.

Mr. L. E. Campbell read the following notes:—

THE MANUFACTURE OF COCAINE.

"Cocaine is obtained from the leaves of two varieties of plants, both of which are known to be grown in Ceylon.

"In Peru and Bolivia the plants have been cultivated for many centuries. The Bolivian variety is *Erythroxylon coca* whilst the "Truxillo or Peruvian coca leaves are obtained from *Erythroxylon truxillense*.

"Coca is also cultivated in the East, notably in Java, where the botanical source of the variety appears to be *Erythroxylon truxillense*. This Java product is usually imported into Germany via Amsterdam, thus cutting out the London drug market.

"The constituents vary in proportion in the different varieties. Cocaine occurs in both but the Bolivian variety contains the greater quantity though it is usually less than one per cent.

"In addition to cocaine other constituents are Cinnamyl-cocaine and truxilline. In the *Erythroxylon truxillense* are frequently present in even large quantity than cocaine itself. Cocoa leaves contain in addition cocatannic acid.

"The extraction of the cocaine is carried out as follows:—

"The finely powdered leaves are extracted with a mixture of aqueous sodium carbonate and petroleum, the mixture being gently warmed and shaken.

"The action of the alkaline carbonate is to liberate the cocaine from its combined form, the cocaine so liberated then dissolving in the petroleum.

"The petroleum is then drawn off and acidified with hydrochloric acid when a crystalline precipitate of crude cocaine hydrochloride is obtained, filtered off, pressed and dried. This crude salt usually contains 30 to 90 per cent. cocaine hydrochloride.

"It is prepared by again liberating the cocaine with alkali and dissolving it in alcoholic hydrochloric acid, the hydrochloride then being recrystallised. In addition to the cocaine there exist the other alkaloid. These, however, have in themselves no commercial value and are therefore converted into cocaine. This process is very complicated but consists essentially in heating with hydrochloric acid and subsequently with a regulated amount of benzoic anhydride and finally with methyl iodide, a solution of caustic potash and methyl alcohol. Cocaine is the final product.

"According to one authority the final conversation may be accomplished on one operation by heating with methyl iodide and benzoic acid under pressure.

"In the case of the Java leaves the chief alkaloid is cinnamyl-cocaine and not cocaine itself. The total alkaloids are therefore treated by the process last described without any preliminary separation of cocaine. The Java leaves contain about 0.7 per cent. total alkaloids.

"It will be seen therefore that the process necessary for the extraction of cocaine necessitate a high amount of technical skill and experience combined with efficient manufacturing arrangements and apparatus."

Mr. Huyshe Eliot thought that seeing that, if, manufacture would require expert scientists and in India.

certainly not pay alone, as both supply and demand were limited, but would have to be worked in conjunction with other drugs, it would not be advisable to erect such a factory; besides which the London market would at once take steps to oppose such manufacture.

The opinion of the Committee was against the proposal. The Chairman said he would look into the matter of the depressed state of the coca leaf industry to see whether any remedial steps could be taken.

8. Mr. Petch, at the request of Mr. W. Coombe, submitted some samples of branch canker in tea. In general, this decay originates at an old pruning cut, and cannot be attributed to any specific disease. Tarring, pruning cuts should prevent it. The members considered that if the decayed wood was scraped out and the wound tarred the rot would be stopped.

9. The Chairman stated that there had been a large response to the Department's effort to induce the natives to plant up food supplied against a possible shortage. Already 10,000 packets had been distributed of cereals, legumes and vegetables.

10. Owing to the retrenchments now being exercised by the Government it was necessary to cut down the expenditure of the Experiment Stations, but no existing experiments would be interfered with.

On exhibition were photographs of the London Rubber Exhibition and the Visitor's Book; many samples of rubber some very fine samples of Gangaroowa cocoa, Sudan dura grown at Gangaroowa and Matale, and some Manila hemp.

D. S. CORLETT,
Secretary, Committee of
Agricultural Experiments.

PARTICULARS FOR THE FOUR METHODS OF COAGULATING HEVEA RUBBER AT NORTH MATALE ESTATE.

(1) COCOA JUICE COAGULATION. For every one bottle of pure cocoa juice one bottle of cold water is added and the mixture is left for a fortnight to ferment, then another two bottles of water (making one of cocoa juice to 3 water). One bottle of this mixture is added to every 20 bottles of latex, the whole being left for 24 hours to coagulate.

(2) COCONUT WATER. (water inside coconuts): water is left for a week to ferment; of the fermented water one bottle is mixed with 25 bottles of latex which is left for 24 hours for coagulation.

(3) PURE COLD WATER. For every 25 bottles of latex one of pure water is mixed, the whole being left for 30 hours for coagulation.

(4) ACETIC ACID (control): one part of commercial acid is mixed before using with 3 parts of water. Of this mixture 1/16 of a bottle is used for 15 bottles of latex, coagulation taking place in 2 hours.

N. B.—For all the above methods Sodium bisulphite is used as follows:—

4 oz. Sodium bisulphite is mixed with 6 bottles of cold water: of the mixture 1/16 of a bottle is used for every 8 gallons of latex.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

P. & O. S. N. Co.,
S.S. "Mooltan,"
24th October, 1914

THE EDITOR,

The "Planting Gazette,"
Kandy, Ceylon.

SIR,

My duties as your correspondent really begin right at the beginning of this voyage, for the ship is full of men who are going Home to join in the war. Hardly an able-bodied man exists among the passengers who is not on his way either to rejoin some regiment or to enlist. There are a number of men from China, a batch of tobacco planters from Sumatra, a wild man from Borneo: P.W.D. I think, a lot of Straits planters, several Australians, and our Ceylon crowd. One of the greatest characters, known by the nom de Theatre of Jack Ark, is a Frenchman who was touring in New Zealand with Harry Lauder doing juggling tricks with a stock whip and Gyroscopes. He is a flying man and has a racing Bleriot machine in Paris. Lauder let him off his contract and he is off to drop bombs on Zeppelins. The voyage is quite different from any ordinary one, and it rather makes one's heart glow to find all these good fellows rushing in from the corners of the world to join in the great crusade. We run with all lights out at night and when one goes across the deck it is necessary to take some care not to fall over people sitting about in long chairs. Fortunately or unfortunately according to taste, there is not much temptation offered in the line of flirtation, or perhaps we might find the captain willing even to brave the "Einden" and light the decks; though one lady, known to the ship as "Einden" owing to her acute singularity, has been understood to express some nervousness. At about midday yesterday the masts of a man-of-war were spied from the bridge, and we immediately steamed full speed away from them as hard as we could go, but it is not known what she was. All day long men can be seen practising flag signalling, and in the mornings we do an hour's drill and physical exercise. Such a heterogeneous crowd of us, thin and thick, some very thick, short and tall, old and young. We form up at 6 o'clock in shorts *et Praeterea Nihil* and run round the deck as long as we can hold out, then we do squad drill, then physical drill of a fairly strenuous kind then more running, and so on; all under the able direction of an ex-tommy who has just left instructing the Australian territorials to go Home and fight. A capital fellow and just the man to train us. Now then don't stick out much in front he cries and those of us whom nature has blessed with a commanding presence find by actual experiment that matters cannot be destroyed but only displaced and are shortly afterwards called up for bulging in front.

other direction. This description of the voyage from Australia gives a clue to our instructor's cheery strenuousness "a grand voyage," he said to me, "I was in a muck sweat the whole way!" And so are we going to be now, under his leadership. Some of the first-class are going to join us, including a Colombo Agent! There is a splendid brave capable girl from Ceylon in the first-class going Home to volunteer as a nurse, and I think it would be a pleasure to have a bandage tied by her. "I do hope they won't cut my hands off," she said, and we all pray that we may catch one, just one of such workers of devilties before we get put out of action. There is all the spirit of a crusade among us.

We reach Aden in three days and I will continue then if there is anything worth recording.

October 27th, 1914.—Off Guardafui.

There is not much new to record. But in the pages of the P. G. I should like to pay some tribute to the Colombo Agent we have on board. He turns out like a man every morning, and goes right through the physical drill and the doubling round the deck. Pretty stiff it is too. We have all got sore feet, stiffer knees, but longer wind than we had a few days ago, and we will get Home as fit as can be. One of our Ceylon young nuts had a terrific struggle at chess the other day, they actually played for a fiver and took four hours over it! Well, au Revoir Mr. Editor for the present.

Yours, &c.,

JOHN STILL.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

C.A.S. Office,

Peradeniya, 3rd October, 1914.

Vegetable Gardens.

Members of the Board of Agriculture are invited to use their influence with their neighbours in the villages in encouraging them to utilize all vacant places in their gardens for planting up vegetables, cereals and pulses. A prolongation of the war may lead to an increase of unemployment which could not be so severely felt if people had their gardens well stocked with vegetables as it otherwise might be. Applications for seeds and plants could be made to the Secretary, Ceylon Agricultural Society, Peradeniya, who will supply them at cost price.

R. N. LYNE,

O. V. P.

C. DRIEBERG,

Secretary, C.A.S.

D. 4266

Department of Agriculture,
Peradeniya, Ceylon,
15th October, 1914.

EW KENNEDY, Esq., J.P., U.P.M.,

Chairman, Planters' Association of Ceylon,

Fairlawn,

Maskeliya.

R.

We are taking precautionary steps against a possible shortage of food in the island should supplies be inter-

rupted or unemployment become serious and I suggest that superintendents be advised to encourage vegetable growing among coolies on estates giving them land for that purpose if required. We should be glad to assist in procuring seeds.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. N. LYNE,

Director of Agriculture.

Seeds procurable on application to the Director of Agriculture, Peradeniya.

Price 10 cents per packet.

Packets.	Packets.	Packets.
Alanga ...	Chili ...	Mé ...
Amaranthus ...	Cress ...	Mellon ...
Asparagus ...	Cucumber ...	Onion ...
Bandakka ...	Dhall ...	Parsley ...
Beans ...	Groundnut ...	Peas ...
Beet ...	Kale ...	Princess Bean
Bitter Gourd ...	Katurumurunga	Pumpkin ...
Brinjals ...	Kekiri ...	Radish ...
Brocoli ...	Kirihenda ...	Salsify ...
Brussels sprout	Kohl Rabi ...	Snake Gourd
Cabbage ...	Leek ...	Spinach ...
Carrot ...	Lettuce ...	Tomato ...
Cauliflower ...	Luffa ...	Turnip ...
Celery ...	Maize ...	Vegetable Marrow

ARMY REMOUNT DEPARTMENT.

Army Headquarters, India,

Quartermaster-General's Branch,

Simla,

31st October, 1914.

To THE SECRETARY,

Ceylon Planters' Association,
Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour to state that the Director General, Army Remount Department, has brought to my notice the valuable assistance and co-operation rendered by Members of your Association to Major E. C. Loch, Army Remount Department, during his recent visit to Ceylon on horse purchasing duty, and I would ask that you will very kindly convey my thanks to the gentlemen concerned.

Yours faithfully,

W. E. BUNBURY,

Major-General,

Quartermaster-General in India.

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Kandy, 7th November, 1914.
The Quartermaster-General in India,
Army Headquarters,
Simla, India.

Horse Purchasing in Ceylon.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 31st ultimo, contents of which will be conveyed to the members of this Association on the 13th instant.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Sgd.) CARR HAMOND,
Acting Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

No. 192.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association,
SIR,

I have the honour to ask you to be so good as to notify in the next issue of the "Gazette" that I shall be glad if Estate Superintendents will send escorts for bolters immediately on receipt of the advice wire from me.

2. This Camp is much further away than Ragama and, on many occasions of late, escorts have arrived after the bolters have been forwarded under escort of my peons only as far as the Estate Station.

3. My wire is always followed up by a confirmatory letter and I note that it is only on receipt of this letter that the escort is sent.

Thanking you in anticipation.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
H. GORDON CRAN,
Superintendent,
Mandapam Camp.

No. Adm/14.

"RECRUITING IN MALABAR."

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly,
10th October, 1914.
THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

Malabar.

I enclose a copy of the letter I have received this morning from the Hon. Mr. L. E. Buckley, Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Survey, Land Records and Agriculture, Board of Revenue, Madras, with reference to the labour available in the above Districts.

It appears to be a very favourable opportunity for Estates employing Malayalam to further augment their labour force, if they are in a position to do so.

The present extraordinary falling off in recruiting can be only attributed to the fact that a majority of Estates are not recruiting for the present, and I presume it is therefore improbable that many will be able to take advantage of the situation in that part of Malabar indicated by Mr. Buckley.

Yours faithfully,

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Enc. Copy of letter.
N.S.R.

Calicut, October 8th, 1914.

From

The Hon. Mr. L. E. BUCKLEY, I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Survey
Land Records and Agriculture, Board of
Revenue, Madras

To

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON, Esq.,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
Trichinopoly.

MY DEAR NICHOLSON,

You will know that the coir trade is disorganised by the war.

Many thousands of Tiyaans, especially in Ponani Taluk are thrown-out of work and will be on their beam ends in a few weeks.

I write to suggest that it may be worth your while to inform Ceylon Planters of the situation. I cannot guarantee that Tiyaans will go to the Estates; in fact, I think they will be hard to move. They are a peaceable and industrious caste and pleasant people to deal with. I think they would be appreciated if they could be got to move.

Yours sincerely,
(Sgd.) L. E. BUCKLEY.

No. 7/174 WS.

UNDERTAKING OF PRIVATE WORK BY THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 16th October, 1914

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.
SIR,

I am directed to forward to you for information the enclosed copy of Circular despatched dated the 11th September, 1914, received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies regarding the above subject.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
H. M. M. MOORE,
for Colonial Secretary.

Circular (2).

Downing Street,
11th September, 1914

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that my attention has been directed to the yearly increasing demands which are being made on the Imperial Institute by private individuals and firms for reports on technical subjects and especially on the composition and value of raw materials.

2. In the past it has generally been impossible to accede to such requests for investigations from private individuals and firms owing to the pressure of other work. At the same time the conduct of such investigations seems to me to be a legitimate function of the Institute, and I have been given to understand that the demand for such reports would be considerably extended if it were known throughout His Majesty's Possessions that the Institute was prepared to undertake for individuals special reports of the kind indicated in paragraph 8 of the Earl of Elgin's Circular despatch of the 31st of July, 1906.

3. The Institute, however, is now so completely occupied with the scientific, technical, and commercial researches demanded by the Agricultural, Mines, and other technical departments of the Governments of those parts of His Majesty's dominions which contribute to its funds that it is impossible to undertake investigations on any considerable scale for private individuals and firms without adding to the technical staff, and therefore to the general expenses, of the Institute. But, having decided to meet what I believe to be a growing demand for such work, I am authorising the Imperial Institute to undertake in future for an appropriate fee researches, investigations analyses, etc., required by private individuals and firms, either in this country or any of His Majesty's overseas dominions.

4. It will be left to the authorities of the Institute to decide in the case of each application whether or no the request for researches, etc., is one with which the Imperial Institute can properly comply.

5. Any reports which may be supplied under this arrangement will become the property of those who pay for them and will not be communicated either by the Imperial Institute or by any Government to other persons, or published without the consent of those concerned.

6. As it is undesirable that the Imperial Institute should compete with the professional expert, I propose that only special investigations, etc., should be undertaken, i.e. on subjects of a technical character with which the Imperial Institute is exceptionally qualified to deal, especially those relating to the production and utilisation of materials which occur in the British Empire or which might be introduced into British countries and are considered likely to be of value to British commerce or trade.

7. It may be useful if I refer to some of the more important matters with which the Imperial Institute is in a special position to deal:—

(a) Investigations as to the value of new or little known raw materials for commercial purposes.

(b) Chemical analyses, assays and valuations of raw materials, such as fibres, rubbers, oil-seeds, waxes, food-stuffs, tanning materials, essential and fixed oils, gums, resins, drugs, tobaccos, soils, minerals, ores, waters, fuels, etc., etc.

(c) The technical testing of rubber, timbers, cotton, fibres, cements, and other materials.

(d) Identifications of vegetable and mineral substances.

8. I am informed that the Managing Committee are not prepared at present to suggest any actual scale of fees which could meet the variety of cases which are likely to occur. *The fee must be arranged between the Institute and the individuals or firms who require investigations to be made.* The matter will be in the hands of the Director, who will from time to time report to the Managing Committee the fee proposed in any special case in which this cannot be determined by ordinary practice.

9. I believe that the adoption of the plan I have indicated will increase the usefulness of the Imperial Institute to the manufacturing and industrial communities of all countries of the Empire: and, as it will doubtless be of importance to the residents of the Colony Protectorate under your government, I shall be glad if you will take steps to make the arrangement I have sanctioned widely known, either by publishing this despatch in whole or part in the Official "Gazette" or in such other way as may seem to you to be most effective.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

L. HARCOURT.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.

The month of October shows a decline in Recruiting figures of over 50 per cent on those of 1913. This is, of course, abnormal. The decrease which has been general throughout the Agencies is indirectly no doubt caused by the war, not so much however to scare (as this has been, to a great extent, dissipated by energetic circulation of hand-bills reassuring coolies), but to the absence of activity in recruiting from Ceylon itself. At one period during the month about the time of Deepavali festival recruiting practically came to a standstill which is most unusual. Although at the present moment matters are improving and there are indications of a revival in the demand for labour from Ceylon, figures are still far behind last year, and as at the 11th instant the deficit is no less than 22,098. The appended weather report shows that in most of the recruiting districts, the rainfall has been fairly plentiful and in some cases a good deal over the average. Trincomopoly is, however, an exception. Madura is still, behind, on the other hand. Tinnevely is far in excess. The favourable weather conditions and the Deepavali festival of course affected recruiting as usual at this time of the year.

but is not sufficient to account for the tremendous falling off. With the welcome news that the trade routes are now no longer liable to interference by the piratical exploits of the "Emden" and the "Koenigsburg" and with the increase in the number of ships available for the transport of produce, some return to normal conditions may reasonably be anticipated.

MALAYALAM RECRUITING.

I would again remind those estates that recruit this labour that in the District of Ponnani there is much distress and gangs of coolies for short periods of service could no doubt be obtained. It is no good trying to recruit this labour through Tamil kanganies. Malayalams should be employed for the purpose and every assistance will be given by this Commission.

CANNANORE AGENCY.

The Assistant Commissioner of the Headquarters Circle reports that any amount of labour is now available in the Cannanore, Chirakkal, Kottayam, Kurumbranad and Calicut Tuluks, in fact coolies come to the Agency without kanganies asking to be sent to Ceylon. It is quite possible to secure the services of a respectable Agent in Cannanore who would supply labour for a consideration. Special handbills should be well circulated in the North and South Malabar Districts and I would recommend those estates who are employing Malayalams and require labour to take advantage of the present conditions in Malabar. It is not much use this Commission exploiting these Districts unless it is energetically followed up by recruiters from Ceylon estates. The Assistant Commissioner has instructions to proceed to Ponnani and to submit his report in due course, giving results of his visit which will be published in the next issue of the "Planting Gazette."

COMPLAINTS FROM SUPERINTENDENTS.

I have, during the course of the last few months or since the outbreak of the war, received numerous letters from Superintendents informing me that kanganies and coolies have complained to them that registration of their coolies at the Agencies of this Commission has either been seriously delayed or entirely refused. On enquiry, it is almost invariably ascertained that this was caused by the fact that the account of that particular estate was overdrawn and replies had not been received to communications from this office from the Superintendent concerned. The necessity for holding up or refusing to register labour was merely temporary and in accordance with instructions received from Ceylon that overdrafts, automatic or otherwise, should not be permitted, which order was subsequently cancelled, and since such cancellation, all coolies for estates that are actively recruiting are being passed as formerly. Those Superintendents, however, who have given me explicit instructions that reference must be made to them before registration takes place, or any payment is made, must of course anticipate complaints from their coolies as to delay or refusal at this end.

BRIBERY AND EXTORTION BY INDIAN POLICE.

I had the unusual experience of witnessing an incident at Madura Railway station a few months ago which amply illustrated the methods adopted by some of the Police subordinates to extort money from the poorer classes. Passing through Madura I was staying at the Railway Retiring rooms, from the top of which I witnessed at about midnight a constable holding up a large crowd of 3rd class passengers from entering the station except on payment of a fee to which, of course, he was entitled. I immediately proceeded to charge the constable, and as witnesses I was fortunate enough to find several Ceylon kanganies amongst the crowd who had been victimised. After a delay of many months, the case has been concluded. The Police constable was convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 100 and has been dismissed the force. I trust that this conviction will result in fewer complaints being received with regard to extortion from kanganies and coolies passing through Madura.

CLAIMED COOLIES AND ESTATE DEBTS.

Superintendents of estates, before sending any claimed coolie to the coast on receipt of intimation from this office that an initial deposit of Rs. 50 has been made by the claimant, should advise me of the coolie's actual debt, including all incidental expenses in sending the coolie to coast, so that any further amount may be collected from the claimant, as otherwise it is not possible to recover the balance after the coolie has left the estate.

TRACING OF DEFAULTERS.

Estate Superintendents would be well advised if they would, whenever possible, send their kanganies to the Coast who could accompany the peons of this Commission when they go to villages to trace defaulters. Much difficulty is experienced by the peons when they are unaccompanied by kanganies not only do they have difficulties on identifying the defaulters, but debts are promptly denied and the peon's authority questioned. I feel sure that many more debts would be recovered and defaulters sent to their estates, if the above idea was adopted.

The above, of course, refers to big debts, it might not be worth while sending the kanganies when the debts were small. It would greatly facilitate the work of tracing coolies through this Department if Superintendents would avoid writing letters in lieu of filling in B. Forms issued by this Commission. One B. Form should be devoted to each defaulter, more than one name cannot be included thereon, and full particulars should be given. I would also point out that the custom of kanganies being sent to certain Agencies in order to identify the defaulters without these necessary particulars being sent by the Superintendent adds to the difficulties of such identification. I feel sure that in many cases kanganies deliberately give incorrect addresses of defaulters which indicates, of course, that they are directly conniving at such defaulting. I would recommend that such particulars be verified from the Estate Register, which unless the coolie has originally given a false declaration can be relied upon.

TICKETS ON THE RAILWAY.

Referring to the notice published in the "Planting Gazette" of September and October issues, relative to the above subject, Superintendents are hereby informed that arrangements have now been completed for the through booking of coolies from stations on Ceylon Government Railway to Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway stations.

CIRCULAR LETTER TO ESTATE SUPERINTENDENTS.

I append for the information of your kanganies and copies of a notice giving history of a case in which a Ponnuswamy kangany of Unugalla Estate, Badulla Post Office, was recently convicted at the Court of Badulla, Ceylon, under Section 400 of the Ceylon Penal Code for cheating and sentenced to undergo six months' rigorous imprisonment.

I shall feel obliged if you will have it exhibited in a prominent place on your estate.

NOTICE.

"A warning to kanganies and coolies coming to India recruit coolies.

P. C. Badulla Case No. 2625.

"In this case Ponnuswamy kangany of Unugalla Estate was charged under Section 400 of the Ceylon Penal Code with cheating. The Superintendent deposed that, in 1914, the accused represented to him that there were new coolies, i.e., coolies who had never been previously in Ceylon—waiting at the Coast of India ready to come to Ceylon and work on an estate, and that if the accused were given the sum of Rs. 50 he (accused) would go over and engage the coolies. Believing this representation the Superintendent handed the sum of Rs. 50 to the accused. The accused returned to the estate but brought no coolies and offered no explanation for not doing so. He had, while in India, obtained further sums from the Labour Commissioner. The Superintendent was informed of the despatch of one coolie from the Camp at Ragama, but the coolie never arrived on the estate.

"The accused admitted these facts but said that he had not Rs. 20 in recruiting labour and that he could not engage the coolies over owing to the prevalence of cholera.

"The accused was convicted of the charge and sentenced to undergo six months' rigorous imprisonment."

Shinopoly,

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

October 10th, 1914.

HEADQUARTER AND MADURA CIRCLES.

TANJORE AGENCY.—This Agency shows an increase in spite of adverse circumstances, of course there has been a large falling off since war was declared and very little recruiting is being done at present. The prospect of recruiting would be good had it not been for the war as the first crop was a failure, the second crop is a little better. There is any amount of labour to be got in this district.

(Defaulting Cases). The defaulting case department is very unsuccessful in this Agency, the Agent and the people complain that the difficulty is due to wrong addresses being given.

MANAPARAI AGENCY.—Prospects of recruiting are not good at present owing to the good rain, most of the people are engaged in the fields, wages are from 4 annas to 6 annas for men and 3 annas to 3½ annas for women. The Manaparai Agency is, I consider, a good recruiting centre.

G. S. DUPEN.

Assistant Commissioner.

SALEM CIRCLE.

TIRUPATUR AGENCY.—The decrease in figures is undoubtedly due to the closing of the Agency for several months this year on account of plague. Several notorious bogus gangs of Palla caste coolies were registered last year and belted, as will be seen from the figures. Only 62 new coolies have passed through this Agency to-date this year, which is an average of 2 per diem. If these figures do not improve in the course of the next few months I would say that the Agency hardly justifies its existence at Tirupatur. The comparative statement is maintained but should show figures for every day in the month in both years. (Note by Commissioner:—This Agency is about to be closed).

There has been heavy rain during the last few days and the country looks very green. This, however, is said to be only recent, and insufficient for the crops. Recruiting prospects should therefore be good at present owing to this fact and also that most of the labour available was going to Penang and Straits from this taluk during the first half of the year.

JOLARPET AGENCY.—Crops are in a fairly good state as there has been plenty of rain, but there is not yet enough water in the paddy fields. Things, other than local products, have gone up in price owing to the war.

ATUR AGENCY.—Up to the end of July the figures were practically the same. The fall has occurred during the last few months on account of the rumours about here that no one could emigrate by reason of the war. Village Munsiffs have been giving out by beat of tom-tom that it is not possible to emigrate to Penang, Straits, etc., and the people have, of course, included Ceylon. The hand-bills have however contradicted this rumour to some extent. It will be noticed that a very much larger number of kanganies

and coolies came over this year as against last and the total number of these exceeds the number of new coolies registered this year by 27.

The crops are in a very good state around here and there has been plenty of rain. All the tanks and rivers are full of water and good conditions prevail everywhere. This, coupled with the harvest season, will stop recruiting for several months, even if the rumours regarding the war and emigration to Ceylon are entirely dispelled by the distribution of hand-bills.

DHARMAPURI AGENCY.—There is a decrease of 102 new coolies this year and a total decrease of 181 people registered. The decrease is due to more kanganies having been sent over last year and also to the fact that since August 3rd, 1914, only 2 kanganies have been referred to this Agency this year. Nearly all the labour available here is reported to be going into Mysore to work on the building of a new tank about 13 miles from Mysore.

There has been rain lately and crops are in a better state than when I came here in August. Coolies may be available after the harvest in December.

NAMAKAL AGENCY.—The increase in figures this year is attributed to the pooriness of crops and lack of rain. Also no doubt to the fact that I was able to make a thorough tour all over this taluk in February and advertise in all the smaller villages where Ceylon is very little known. There does not appear to have been a very large decrease in figures since the commencement of the war.

There has been a great deal of rain since the middle of last month and crops are at present very good, which will affect recruiting to some extent. The war scare reported in these parts has worn off a good deal, and people appear to be more reconciled. This has been due to a great extent, to the hand-bills, which have been freely distributed.

MUSIRI AGENCY.—The figures were almost the same until the 1st of August, when they steadily dropped and are continuing to do so, and as the decrease has occurred in the last few months, it can only be attributed to one cause. The season for recruiting is generally slack at this time of the year, but it will be seen from the figures that 22 persons have been registered up to date in the current month as against 54 in the same month up to date last year.

Prospects of recruiting are very poor at present as crops are in good condition everywhere and there has been a lot of rain. The scare which started on account of the war has, to some extent, dispelled by the distribution of hand-bills.

TURAIYUR AGENCY.—From the statistics of this Agency it appears that the heavy decrease in figures has been continual during the whole year, in fact more so before August than since. This can only be attributed to the preference for Penang which is apparent during the first half of the year. As will be seen from the figures, the number of kanganies and old coolies registered this year up to date, exceeds the number of new coolies by 141. The war has, of course, created some scare about emigrating, but this does not seem to have affected the figures so much as the good state of crops and preference to emigrate to the Straits and Penang.

The prospects are, under ordinary circumstances, poor as a rule during this time of the year in these parts. There has been plenty of rain and the people are engaged in the fields. There has been some war scare about here but the hand-bills have had the desired effect and the people have been reassured.

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner

NOTICES.

[Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette"
No. 6,653 of August 28th, 1914.]

"The Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance," 1897."

The following regulation made by the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the provision of the above-named Ordinance, in addition to the regulation published by Notification dated July 25th, 1914, is published for general information.

By His Excellency's command,

Colonial Secretary's Office, R. E. STUBBS,
Colombo, August 27th, 1914. Colonial Secretary

Rule Referred to.

90 A. No infected goods, or goods suspected of being infected, shall be carried by railway unless previously disinfected, repacked, or otherwise dealt with as the proper authority shall direct.

TIN TICKET SYSTEM—COOLY BILLS.

No. 1507.

Mandapam Camp,

Mandapam P. O.

S. India, 17th November, 1914

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association,
Kandy.

Cooly Bills.

SIR,

I have the honour to ask you to kindly notify in the "Gazette" that the above Bills from this Camp have invariably been sent out in the registered covers along with the certificates and Tin Tickets of the Coolies, for whom the bills have been incurred.

2. To date I have been called upon for copies of 200 Bills, which seems to indicate that the estates look up these original Bills in the Registered covers merely Advice Statements and not as being the actual bills payable to the Kachcheri.

3. I trust therefore that Estate Superintendents note these bills in future and keep them for settlement at the Colombo Kachcheri.

4. I may add that the absence of a Bill in the registered cover indicates that the coolies paid all expenses in camp.

Thanking you in anticipation.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) H. GORDON CRAN,
Superintendent, Mandapam Camp.

TIN TICKET SYSTEM.

Notice to Planters.

It is notified for information that from 1st December next all payments of Cooly Bills on account of ex-

penses incurred by Tin Ticket Coolies should be made direct to the Colombo Kacheheri, payable to the Hon'ble the Government Agent, Western Province, and not to the Local Kacheheries as heretofore.

Note.—This Notice refers to Tin Ticket Bills only and not to "Medical Aid" or "Hospital Charges" Bills which should be continued to be paid to the Local Kacheheries.

(Signed) R. G. SAUNDERS
for Government Agent, W.P.

Colombo Kacheheri.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month ending October, 1914.

DETAIL.		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Trumpeters.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant Acting.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Total.	REMARKS.
Regtl. Staff		1	1	1	2	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	10	1	1	1	2	
A. Squadron			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3					
I. Troop														1			1	1	1	22	26	26				
II. "				1			1													2	2	3				
III. "					1		1							2						22	24	25				
IV. "					1		1							2			3	2	1	24	32	33				
TOTAL			1	1	2		4					1	5	1	4	3	2	70	86	90						
B. Squadron			1	1			2				1	1								2	4					
I. Troop					1		1						1			2	1	1	18	23	24					
II. "					1		1						2			2	1		14	19	20					
III. "					1		1						1			1		1	24	27	28					
IV. "					1		1						1					1	17	19	20					
TOTAL			1	1	4		6				1	1	5			5	2	3	73	90	96					
Regt. Staff		1	1	1	2	1	6	1	1	1				1						4	10					
A. Squadron			1	1	2		4					1	5		1	4	3	2	70	86	90					
B. Squadron			1	1	4		6				1	1	5			5	2	3	73	90	96					
Strength		1	3	3	8	1	16	1	1	1	1	2	10	1	1	9	5	5	143	180	196	1	1	1	3	
Strength last Return		1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	10	1	1	10	7	5	177	218	236					
Increase Since																										
Decrease Since																										
Disbandment		1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	3	
Increase to Complete					2		2				1	(2)	1		1	4	3	3	41	54	56					
Decrease			1	2	3		6		1	1	1		5		2	1			22	33	39					
Including Reserve		1	4	5	11	1	22	1	2	2	2	2	15	1	3	10	5	5	165	213	235	1	1	1	3	

A. E. ANDREWS, Captain,
Acting Adjt. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.
CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.
FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1914.

		VOLUNTEER STAFF.															
Coy.	SECTION.	Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Sergt. Major.	Qr. M. Sergt.	Colour-Sergeant.	Sergeant.	Lance-Sergts & Corples.	Sergt.-Bugler.	Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.
	Staff	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	4
A.	Kelani Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	31	85
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	15
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8
B.	Kandy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	18	21
	Matale	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	11
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8
	Rangalla	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8
C.	Mattakelle	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	11	15
	Agrapatna	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	10	13
	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	14	16
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	6	7
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	14	16
	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	6
	Pundaloya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8
D.	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	10	11
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	7	9
	Haputale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	7
	Badulla	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	18	21
	Uda Pussellawa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	8	11
	Batticaloa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	9	12
E.	Kalutara	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	35	39
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	17
	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	22	23
	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	12	15
	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	6
F.	Colombo	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	39	42
G.	Ambegamuwa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	13	15
	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	11	12
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	10	12
	C.M.R. Contingent	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	36	39
H.	Colombo	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	...	59	67
	Motor Cycle Section	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	30	32
	Contingent	...	1	3	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	7	8	...	4	164	191
* TOTAL STRENGTH		1	2	9	11	4		1	1		5	22	28	1	9	674	768
Strength by last Return		1	2	9	7	6		1	1		5	21	27	1	5	646	733
Increase Since					4							1	1		4	28	35
Decrease Since							2										2
* C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File								49			TOTAL...		58				
Total Strength including Reserve								826									

A. E. ANDREWS, Captain.
Acting Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Headquarter & Madura Circles.						
Agents' Reports.						
Malabar ... (Cannanore Agency)	Cherakal ... Kottayam ... Kurambranad ... Ponnani ... Ernaad ... Calicut ... Palghat ... Walawanad ... Wynaad ...	Fair	5 to 6	2½ to 3	Good	As the Assam depôt here is temporarily closed there are good prospects for recruiting
Do ... (Palghat Agency)	Palghat	Farmers are busily engaged in cutting the crops.	3 to 5	2½ to 3	Coolies cannot be recruited now as they got sufficient work in the fields.	
Coimbatore ... (Erode Agency)	Erode ... Palladam ... Bhavani ... Gobiechettipalayam ... Avanasi ... P. Dharapuram ... Satiamangalam ... Udumalpet ... Pollachi ... Kollegal ...	Good	4 to 6	3 to 4	Poor	Owing to the European War exportation of grains is at an end, consequently there is every chance of obtaining foodstuffs at a cheap rate.
Do ...	Dharapuram	Paddy, ragi, groundnuts, cholam.	5	3	Indifferent	Villagers of the labouring class are engaged in cutting ragi in fields, others in digging up groundnuts for daily wages. Cultivation for dry crops going on. Increased rates are paid in some parts for heavy work, as much as 5 annas for male and 3 annas for female, being paid.
Trichinopoly ... (Karur Agency)	Karur	Tennerie, cumbu good.				
Trichinopoly ...	Kulitalai	Good	5	3	Not bad	Rain has fallen in plenty all over. Paddy and cumbu planting is going on. Much demands for labour. Cholam crops are pretty good. Tanks are full of water.
Puducottah ...	Kolathur	Fair	4½	2½	Not good	
	Kiranoor	do				
	Tirumayam	do				
Madura ... Do (Dindigul Agency)	Melur	Good	5	3½	Fair	There is a probability of getting large number of coolies now in Dindigul and surrounding places.
	Palani	2nd portion of paddy, cumbu, cholam, etc., are good.	5	3	Fair	
	Nilacottai	do	5	2½	do	
	Periaculam	do	4	2	do	
Coimbatore ...	Udumalpet	do	5	2½	do	
	Pollachi	do				

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		Agents' Reports.
Headquarter & Madura Circles.						
Tanjore ... (Tanjore Agency)	Arantangi ...	Water supply gene-				
	Kumbakonam ...	rally suffi-				
	Mannargudi ...	cient, 2 ft.				
	Nannilam ...	2 in. of				
	Negapatam ...	water over	8	6	Not fair	Generally good. Employment available.
	Papanasam ...	Grand Anicut.				Grain stock sufficient. Prospects generally fair.
Tanjore ...	Pattukottai ...	Sowing of paddy and varagu and transplanting of paddy				
		In progress.				
		Standing crops generally fair.				Generally good. Employment available.
		Harvested				Grain stock sufficient. Prospects generally fair.
	Shiyali ...	paddy, ragi, cumbu, maize,				
	Tanjore ...	outturn fair.	8	6	Not fair.	
Tanjore ... (Arantangi Agency)	Tiruturaipundi...	Pasture generally sufficient. Fodder available. Condition of cattle generally good.				
	Pattukottai ...					
	Tiruthuraipundi					
	Mannargudi ...					
	Nannilam ...					
	Negapatam ...	do	7 to 9	5 to 7	Employment available; so recruiting prospects not very favourable.	
Puducottah ... (Puducottah Agency)	Kumbakonam ...					
	Mayaveram ...					
	Shiyali ...					
	Papanasam ...					
Puducottah ... (Puducottah Agency)	Tanjore ...					
	Alangudi ...	Sowing in dry and wet lands of ragi, paddy.	5	4		Continuous and plentiful rains on the coast have greatly arrested the progress of emigration. Coolies find good work here
	Kolatur ...	do. and also transplanting of paddy.	5	4	Not good.	
	Tirumayam ...	do.	5	4		
Madura ... Madura Agency)		Wet Crops—Paddy is fair. Sowing and transplanting is in progress in almost all the Periar Valley and some other places owing to recent good rain.				
	Melur ...					
	Tirumangalam ...					Good rain in due season has employed almost all the village populations at present
	and part of Nilakottai ...					
			In Muffisal and			

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		Agents' Reports.
Headquarter & Madura Circles.						
		Dry Crops.—	in townsmen earn			
	Tirupavazham ...	Ragi, cholam	from 4½ to 6 annas			
	Satur ...	and other food	and women from 2½			
	Strivaliputtur ...	grains are sown	to 4 annas.			
	Pallivadam ...	in great quantity and owing to the close of foreign markets for cotton and ground-nuts, food grains take the place of cotton and groundnut lands				
Ramnad ...						
	Satur ...	Paddy, ragi,	In Muffisal.			
	Strivaliputtur ...	cholam, cumbu				Heavy rain in this District from the 10th inst. and the lakes contain 3 months water.
	Ramnad ...	are young				Ryots are engaged in plucking and sowing. We can expect the same number of coolies, i.e., 150 for next month.
	Kamudi ...	and it would	4	3		
	Rasimangalam ...	take another 4				
	Mudukolatur ...	months for harvest.				
	Sivaganga ...	vest. Samai and Kuruthavalai grains are ripe and they will be harvested in a month and a half.	In Town.			
			6	4		
	Tenkasi ...	Good	6	4		
	Ambasamudram ...	do	6	4½		
	Tinnevelly ...	Fair	7	5		
	Nanguneri ...	Not bad	6	3½		
Tinnevelly ...	Strivaikuntam ...	Fair	6	4		
(Tinnevelly Agency)	Koilpatti ...	do	5	4		
	Trichendur ...	do	7	4½		
	Sankarancoil ...	Not good	6	3½		
	Trivendrum ...	Fair	7	5		
			Town sides			
			3½	2½		
Travancore ...	Quilon ...	do	Village parts			
		Dry lands:—				
		There has been heavy rains this year, especially during last month, all the dry lands are being cultivated with mostly grains such as cholam, cumbu and very little quantity of cotton on account of dullness of cotton market.				
	Thiruchendur ...	...	All the Tuticorin Mills except one are stopped as export is stopped. But villagers get good			
Tinnevelly ...	Strivaikundam ...				Indifferent	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men Annas.	Women Annas.		
Headquarter & Madura Circles.						
Agent's Reports.						
Tinnevely ...	Koilpatty ... Sankaranainarcoil ...	Wet lands:— Rice is very largely cultivated and the planting and weeding is in progress and on account of heavy rain the ripe paddy could not be harvested in due time. Food grains are generally dear and people feel for the high prices they are to pay.	employments in fields and earn from 4 to 6 annas in coins or grains. Women earn from 3 to 5 annas daily.			
Ramnad ...	{ Tiruvadanie ... Tirupatur ... Sivaganga ... Parambakudi ... }	Good	6 to 8	4 to 5		Good rain all over these taluks. A few number of coolies will be available to go to the estates in this rainy season.
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON, Ceylon Labour Commissioner.						
Salem Circle.						
Salem ...	Salem Town ...	Fair	4 to 6	2½ to 3	Poor	Recruiting in the town is very slack at present.
	Salem ...	Very good	4 to 5	2½ to 3	Very poor	Recruiting prospects are likely to be very dull for the next few months as the crops are in such excellent condition and all available labour is either engaged in Government building works in Salem town or in harvesting and working in the fields. Crops appear to be exceptionally good and there has been heaps of rain in the above-mentioned taluks of the Salem District.
	Omalar ...	do	3½ to 4	2½ to 3	do	
	Trichengode ...	Fair	4	2½ to 3	Poor	
	Uttengarai ...	Very good	4	2½ to 3	do	
	Hosur and Krishnagiri ...	do	4	2½ to 3	do	
Salem District	Attur ...	Good	in towns. 4 3 in villages. 3 2		Moderate	Recruiting is not likely to be very bright in this taluk on account of the good condition of crops, and the rumours about the war which still exist in spite of every endeavour to dispel them by freely distributing special handbills.
	Dharmapuri ...	Very good	5 to 6	3 to 4	Bad	Crops are in an excellent state in this taluk also, every available cooly is at present busily engaged in the fields and is likely to be until the end of December. A little labour is however may be available at the end of the year.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,

Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
Trichy	Namakal	Good	3 to 4	2 to 3	Bad	<p>There have been excellent rains all over this taluk and coolies are getting sufficient employment and good wages. The war scare has practically died down here by the distribution of the handbills, but the excellent condition of crops will not make recruiting possible for several months.</p> <p>As in other parts the above-mentioned prospects in these taluks are likely to be very poor during the next few months. Crops are all in splendid condition and all labour available is receiving good wages and is employed.</p> <p>Some of the labour available is engaged in harvesting, but crops are reported to be very poor on account of scarcity of rain in these parts. The price of grains are also reported to be dear.</p> <p>A little labour is reported to be available if kangannies are sent to recruit, but most of the kangannies in these parts go into Mysore State to recruit coolies.</p> <p>There has been very little rain in all these parts of the Mysore Province.</p>
	Musiri	Good	6 to 8	2 to 3	Very poor	
	Kulitalai		in towns			
	Perambalore		4 to 5	2		
			in villages			
			1½ to 2 for children.			
North Arcot	Tirupathur	Poor	4	2	Fair	
North Arcot (Kangundi Zemindary)	Kuppam	Fair	4 to 5	3 to 3½	Fair	
Mysore	Mysore	Paddy good	5	3	Moderate	
	Chamrajanagar	do	4½	2½	do	
	Gundlupet	Cholum and ragi good	3½	2	do	
	Nunjungud	Paddy good	5	3	do	
	Nagamangalam	Do bad	5	3	do	
	Yelandur	Paddy good	5	2½	do	
	Mandya	Bad	3½	2	Bad	
Seringapatam	Good	4½	2½	do		

E. V. B. LEVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner,
Salem Circle.
4th November, 1914.

Arcot & Telugu Circles.

Chittoor	Chittoor	Paddy and groundnuts good.	4	2 to 3	Fair	Ragi harvest is going on in some parts and groundnuts in Chittoor taluk. Poor class people have work in groundnuts, ragi and paddy fields; besides this men are employed in road works. Coolies can be had in these taluks if there are no timely rains.
	Kalastry	do	do	do	do	
	Palamansair	do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Vayalpad	do	do	do	Fair	
	Madanapalli	do	do	do	do	
	Punganur	do	do	do	do	
	Chendragiri	do	do	do	do	
North Arcot	Arcot	Paddy and groundnuts good.	4	2	Good	Sornavari will be harvested in November. Coolies can be had in the taluks mentioned but the decrease of coolies at present is owing to the Deepavali feast and a false rumour being spread out everywhere that recruiting for Ceylon is also stopped on account of the war. Most of the labour class people have clearly come to under stand since the receipt of handbills distributed through this Agency that the coolie are despatched to Ceylon as usual through out by rail without any obstruction. therefore have a hope that more coolies will turn up in future to go to Ceylon. This Agency has registered up to date only 10 coolies.
	Guduyatam	do	do	do	do	
	Walaja	do	do	do	do	
	Vellore	do	do	do	Fair	
	Polur	do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Arni	do	do	do	do	
	Wandiwash	do	do	do	do	
	Tiruvanamalai	do	do	do	Fair	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, 1914.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
						Agents' Reports.
Chittoor ...	Puthur and Karvetnager ...	Paddy and cholam good	4 to 5	2 to 3	Poor	Owing to the recent rain in the places surrounding the Districts labour is poor.
		do	do	do	do	
Chingleput ...	Tiruvallur ...	do	do	do	do	
	Ponneri ...	do	do	do	do	
North Arcot...	Arkonam ...	do	do	do	do	
	Cheyar ...	do	do	do	do	
	Chingleput ...	Paddy good.	5	4	Fair	Owing to the heavy rain the recruiting will be rather poor.
	Conjeevaram ...	do	do	do	do	
Chingleput ...	Madurantakam ...	Paddy & ragi	do	do	do	
	Saidapet ...	Ragi & cumbu	6	3 to 4	do	
	Chidambaram ...	Paddy good	4	3	Bad	
	Cuddalore ...	Paddy and groundnut				
South Arcot...		good	5	4	do	
	Gingee ...	do	do	do	do	
	Kallakurchi ...	Ragi, cumbu and ground-nut good.	5	4	Bad.	
South Arcot...	Tindivanam ...	do	4½	3½	do	
	Tirukovilur ...	do	do	do	do	
	Villupuram ...	do	5	4	do	Recruiting is bad on account of heavy rain and busy cultivation in these parts
	Virudachelam ...	do	3	2	do	
	Cuddapah ...	Cholam a month old.	4	2	Indifferent	
	Kamalapuram ...	do	do	do	do	
	Pulivendla ...	Rice 2 months old.	8	3	Bad	
	Jamalamadugu...	Cultivation going on.	6	do	Good	
Cuddapah ...	Prodatur ...	do	8	4	Bad	
	Badvel ...	Cumbu harvested.	3	2	do	
	Sidhout ...	do	do	do	do	
	Pullampet ...	do	do	do	do	
	Royachoti ...	do	do	do	do	
	Guntur ...	Cholam, cumbu and chillies.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Indifferent	
	Narasarowpet ...	Cholam, cotton, redgram and cumbu.	do	do	Good	
Guntur ...	Satnapalli ...	Paddy, chillies & redgram.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Indifferent	
	Bapatla ...	do	do	do	Fair.	
	Tennaly ...	do	do	do	do	
	Anantapur ...	Cholam harvesting.	5	3	Moderate	
	Dharmavaram ...	do	do	do	Bad	
Anantapur ...	Kadiri ...	do	do	do	do	
	Gooty ...	do	4	1½	do	
	Tadpatry ...	do	do	2½	do	
	Kaliyandrug ...	do	4½	do	Moderate	
	Bellary ...	do	5	do	Moderate	
Bellary ...	Royadrug ...	do	do	do	do	
	Hospet ...	do	do	do	do	
	Adony ...	do	do	do	do	
	Kurnool ...	do	do	do	Moderate	
Kurnool ...	Nandiyal ...	do	do	do	do	
	Dhone ...	do	do	do	do	

E. V. B. LEVINGE,

Assistant Commissioner.

31st October, 1914.

THE CEYLON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY PRICE CURRENT.

STATEMENT OF EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

No. 47

COLOMBO, MONDAY, 7th DECEMBER, 1914.

RICE.						Rs.	Cts.	@	Rs.	Cts.
Muttusanba No. 1 (without bags) per bushel F. O. R. Colombo	...	...	...	...	...	6	50	"	7	00
" " 2	"	"	"	"	...	6	00	"	6	50
" " 3	"	"	"	"	...	5	50	"	6	00
Soolaye " 1	"	"	"	"	...	4	60	"	4	65
" " 2	"	"	"	"	...	4	50	"	4	60
" " 3	"	"	"	"	...	4	55	"	4	50
" Kara	"	"	"	"	...	4	40	"	4	45
Silhet (Hari Kali)	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	...
Pegu & Calcutta Calunda	"	"	"	"	...	4	58	"	4	68
Coast Calunda	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	...
Coast Kara	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	...
Kadappa and Kuruwe	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	...
Rangoon Raw	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	...
" per 3 bushel bag	"	"	"	"	...	...	...	"	...	...

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1914.

		PREVIOUSLY.				OCTOBER.				TOTAL.				GRAND. TOTAL.	
HEADQUARTER	CIRCLE:—	M.	W.	Ch.	Inft. Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Inft. Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Inft.		
1.	Cannanore	298	20	2	3 323	24	5	0	1 30	322	25	2	4 353		
2.	Palghat	861	51	29	13 954	25	0	0	0 25	886	51	29	13 979		
3.	Erode	1025	261	145	72 1,503	88	28	5	10 131	1,113	289	150	82 1,634		
4.	Karur	707	154	87	46 994	39	13	7	3 62	746	167	94	49 1,058		
5.	Trichinopoly	14,598	4,860	3,700	1,697 24,855	703	193	129	57 1,082	15,301	5,053	3,829	1,754 25,937		
6.	Manaparai	680	224	134	59 1,097	70	25	30	9 134	750	249	164	68 1,231		
7.	Dindigul	1,185	337	138	85 1,745	103	37	6	7 153	1,288	374	144	92 1,898		
8.	Tanjore	1,668	454	164	164 2,450	71	20	14	5 110	1,739	474	178	169 2,560		
9.	Ammapatnam	140	47	22	8 217	Closed				140	47	22	8 217		
10.	Arantangi	207	56	66	30 359	74	23	15	10 222	281	79	81	40 481		
11.	Puducottah	967	268	269	123 1,617	39	14	9	12 74	1,006	282	268	135 1,691		
MADURA CIRCLE:—															
12.	Madura	3,126	1,117	798	418 5,459	156	46	20	21 243	3,282	1,163	818	439 5,702		
13.	Pamban	37	14	6	1 58	Closed.				37	14	6	1 58		
14.	Mandapam	1,947	872	613	310 3,742	70	37	20	12 139	2,017	909	633	322 3,881		
15.	Tinnevely	1,004	213	186	76 1,479	46	9	9	5 69	1,050	222	195	81 1,548		
16.	Tataparai	1,146	403	176	142 1,867	48	11	8	3 70	1,194	414	184	145 1,937		
17.	Tondi	298	101	51	35 465	9	6	1	1 17	307	107	52	36 502		
SALEM CIRCLE:—															
18.	Nanjangud	209	78	37	17 341	37	13	5	2 57	246	91	42	19 398		
19.	Dharmapuri	132	41	17	15 205	5	0	1	0 6	137	41	18	15 211		
20.	Kuppam	92	18	11	8 129	14	2	0	0 16	106	20	11	8 145		
21.	Tirupatur	29	15	0	2 46	3	0	0	0 3	32	15	0	2 49		
22.	Salem	727	212	111	86 1,136	24	8	4	5 41	751	220	115	91 1,177		
23.	Atur	203	66	36	29 334	5	2	0	2 9	208	68	36	31 343		
24.	Namakal	443	152	116	72 783	21	7	8	2 38	464	159	124	74 821		
25.	Turaiyur	329	151	110	80 670	13	6	3	2 24	342	157	113	82 694		
26.	Musiri	426	177	143	89 835	17	5	3	3 28	443	182	146	92 863		
ARCOT CIRCLE:—															
27.	Katpadi	1,442	497	205	125 2,269	87	30	13	12 142	1,529	527	218	137 2,411		
28.	Arkonam	930	310	99	114 1,453	56	15	5	8 84	986	325	104	122 1,537		
29.	Chingleput	1,023	320	144	64 1,551	59	18	5	5 87	1,082	338	149	69 1,637		
30.	Villupuram	1,825	550	205	204 2,784	36	10	3	3 52	1,861	560	208	207 2,836		
TELUGU CIRCLE:—															
31.	Guntakal	178	57	17	20 272	6	1	0	0 7	184	58	17	20 279		
32.	Cuddapah	88	28	8	11 135	1	0	0	0 1	89	28	8	11 138		
33.	Guntur	63	16	11	2 92	0	0	0	0 0	63	16	11	2 92		
34.	Nellore	16	5	2	2 25	Closed				16	5	2	2 25		
35.	Chittoor	11	12	1	2 26	Transporting Agency.				11	12	1	2 26		
		38,060	12,157	7,849	4,224 62,290	1,949	584	323	200 3,056	40,009	12,741	8,172	4,424 65,346		
		1913 ... 88,320													

Total number of coolies shipped at the 4 Ports of Tuticorin, Ammapatnam, Tondi and Mandapam as per Government Returns up to

31st October, 1914..... 73,068

31st October, 1913..... 109,504

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched Monthly from each Agency during 1912, 1913 and 1914.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	
Telugu Circle.													
Guntakal	... 1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	32	91	
"	... 1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452	
"	... 1914	22	29	51	22	73	35	108	43	151	26	177	
Cuddapah	... 1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95	
"	... 1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	244	
"	... 1914	12	33	45	...	45	20	65	13	78	12	90	
Guntur	... 1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269	27	296	
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	138
"	... 1914	2	2	4	6	10	7	17	10	27	31	58	
Nellore	... 1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58	
"	... 1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126	
"	... 1914	7	...	7	7	14	4	18	...	422	3	25	
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	51
"	... 1914	...	...	...	16	16	10	26	Transporting Agency.		26	Transporting Agency.
Madras (For-warding Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
					July.	Total	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.	
Guntakal	... 1912	...	...	...	27	118	45	163	25	188	75	263
"	... 1913	...	...	...	75	527	58	585	76	661	62	723
"	... 1914	...	...	...	39	216	36	252	20	272	7	279
Cuddapah	... 1912	...	...	...	37	132	18	150	26	176	20	196
"	... 1913	...	...	...	132	376	18	394	46	440	90	530
"	... 1914	...	...	...	27	117	12	129	6	135	1	136
Guntur	... 1912	...	...	...	83	329	8	337	...	337	59	396
"	... 1913	...	...	...	3	141	14	155	11	166	10	176
"	... 1914	...	...	...	28	86	6	92	...	92	...	92
Nellore	... 1912	...	...	...	9	67	...	67	...	67	8	75
"	... 1913	...	...	...	13	139	2	141	6	147	13	160
"	... 1914	...	...	...	closed	25	closed	25	closed	25	closed	25
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	27	78	32	110	15	125	5	130
"	... 1914	Transporting Agency.		26	Transporting Agency.		26	Transporting Agency.		26
Madras (For-warding Agency.)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	
Arcot Circle.													
Katpadi	... 1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1082	415	1497	
"	... 1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1263	342	1605	
"	... 1914	102	140	242	171	413	199	612	295	907	352	1259	
Arkonam	... 1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1014	
"	... 1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1023	
"	... 1914	114	69	183	61	244	144	388	230	618	194	812	
Chingleput	... 1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953	562	1515	
"	... 1913	99	132	231	223	454	424	878	440	1318	492	1810	
"	... 1914	55	78	133	107	240	154	394	258	652	247	899	
Villupuram	... 1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1277	501	1778	
"	... 1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1059	682	1741	654	2395	
"	... 1914	118	140	258	167	425	312	737	404	1141	562	1703	

					July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.
Arcot Circle.												
Katpadi	...	1912	577	2074	499	2573	591	3164	422	3586
"	...	1913	"	...	320	1925	387	2312	387	2699	288	2987
"	...	1914	"	...	415	1674	366	2040	229	2269	142	8411
Arkonam	...	1912	"	...	287	1301	311	1612	278	1890	220	2110
"	...	1913	"	...	368	1391	258	1649	275	1924	179	2103
"	...	1914	"	...	240	1052	278	1330	123	1453	84	1537
Chingleput	...	1912	"	...	505	2020	487	2457	409	2866	576	3442
"	...	1913	"	"	556	2366	422	2788	405	3193	216	3409
"	...	1914	"	"	283	1182	208	1390	161	1551	87	1688
Villupuram	...	1912	"	...	618	2396	629	3025	592	3617	423	4040
"	...	1913	"	...	582	2977	544	3521	531	4052	294	4346
"	...	1914	"	...	486	2189	390	2579	205	2784	52	2836
Agencies.												
Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	
Salem Circle.												
Nanjaugud	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19
"	...	1914	19	6	25	15	40	17	57	15	72	
Dharmapuri	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115	
"	...	1914	9	25	34	9	43	25	68	45	113	
Kuppam	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	5	16	21	2	23	9	32	16	48	
Tirupathur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85	
"	...	1914	6	6	12	...	12	...	12	4	16	
Salem	...	1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	826	1103	
"	...	1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840	
"	...	1914	42	71	113	122	235	168	403	222	625	
Jolarpet (For-warding Agency.)	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182	
"	...	1914	21	21	42	42	84	23	107	85	192	
Namakal	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	18	15	33	58	91	55	146	83	229	
"	...	1914	23	41	64	55	119	167	286	110	396	
Turaiyur	...	1912	5	32	37	6	43	23	71	137	208	
"	...	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	319	
"	...	1914	16	5	21	51	72	31	103	158	261	
Musiri	...	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	228	
"	...	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	866	
"	...	1914	13	2	15	19	34	73	107	222	329	
Agencies.												
Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.				
Nanjaugud	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	18	106	31	137	20				
"	...	1914	...	71	203	58	261	80				
Dharmapuri	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	59	187	30	217	55				
"	...	1914	...	46	168	29	197	8				
Kuppam	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	28	85	15	100	29				
Tirupathur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	12	111	27	138	30				
"	...	1914	...	11	33	10	43	3				
Salem	...	1912	...	346	1762	456	2218	457				
"	...	1913	...	166	1174	185	1359	185				
"	...	1914	...	131	897	150	1047	89				
Jolarpet (For-warding Agency.)	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	39	288	66	354	87				
"	...	1914	...	62	288	17	305	29				

Agencies.	Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.
Salem Circle.									
Namakal	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	50
"	... 1913	...	69	78	463	69	532	60	592
"	... 1914	...	100	89	718	65	783	38	821
Turaiyur	... 1912	...	104	41	568	96	664	50	714
"	... 1913	...	139	88	774	55	829	43	872
"	... 1914	...	100	33	538	132	670	24	694
Musiri	... 1912	...	87	52	476	32	508	78	586
"	... 1913	...	177	122	871	82	953	54	1007
"	... 1914	...	159	55	801	34	838	28	866

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Headquarter Circle.												
Cannanore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	26	10	36	56	92
"	... 1914	95	18	53	27	80	59	139	37	176	35	211
Palghat	... 1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	82	303	167	469
"	... 1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	105	391	91	482
"	... 1914	38	89	127	65	192	83	275	141	416	179	595
Erode	... 1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	302	939	174	1113
"	... 1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	216	1021	274	1295
"	... 1914	50	106	156	121	277	162	439	164	603	293	896
Karur	... 1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	96	410	118	528
"	... 1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	184	527	87	614
"	... 1914	30	83	113	73	186	106	292	132	424	191	615
Trichinopoly	... 1912	740	1036	1776	1556	3332	3276	6608	6057	12665	6088	18753
"	... 1913	994	1201	2195	1453	2648	4081	7729	7639	15368	7193	22561
"	... 1914	740	796	1536	1371	2907	2747	5654	4668	10322	5258	15580
Manaparai	... 1912	111	103	214	135	349	129	478	344	822	297	1119
"	... 1913	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	425	1269	446	1715
"	... 1914	28	25	53	69	122	79	201	202	403	170	573
Dindigul	... 1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	289	835	295	1130
"	... 1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	403	1166	357	1523
"	... 1914	140	125	265	149	414	165	579	268	847	234	1081
Tanjore	... 1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879	323	1202
"	... 1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943	447	1390
"	... 1914	111	175	286	252	538	316	854	351	1205	491	1696
Ammapatnam	... 1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383	240	623
"	... 1913	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	179	444	174	618
"	... 1914	35	20	55	29	84	17	101	12	113	22	135
Puducottah	... 1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	114	698	348	1046
"	... 1913	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768	437	1205
"	... 1914	44	96	140	122	262	230	492	257	749	343	1092
Arantangi	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Agencies.	Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.
Cannanore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	19	73	184	35	219	37	256
"	... 1914	...	41	252	277	46	323	80	403
Palghat	... 1912	...	178	173	820	170	990	253	1243
"	... 1913	...	140	134	756	101	857	131	988
"	... 1914	...	137	732	889	65	954	25	979
Erode	... 1912	...	202	173	1488	274	1762	241	2008
"	... 1913	...	179	180	1654	196	1850	132	1982
"	... 1914	...	192	220	1808	195	1503	131	1634
Karur	... 1912	...	119	198	845	196	1041	130	1171
"	... 1913	...	103	92	809	135	944	124	1068
"	... 1914	...	159	774	902	92	994	62	1056
Trichinopoly	... 1912	...	4529	3760	27042	3650	30692	3508	84200
"	... 1913	...	4723	8772	31056	3410	34466	2173	36639
"	... 1914	...	4673	2549	22802	2653	24855	1082	25937
Manaparai	... 1912	...	319	331	1769	272	2041	320	2361
"	... 1913	...	438	368	2521	107	2628	52	2680
"	... 1914	...	124	201	898	199	1097	134	1231

Agencies.	Years.				July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.
Headquarter Circle.												
Dindigul	1912	...	...	...	357	1487	373	1860	304	2164	880	2544
"	1913	...	...	...	328	1851	274	2125	318	2443	220	2663
"	1914	...	...	...	251	1332	197	1529	216	1745	153	1898
Tanjore	1912	...	...	...	259	1461	175	1636	246	1882	194	2076
"	1913	...	...	...	318	1708	160	1868	213	2081	121	2202
"	1914	...	...	...	404	2100	197	2297	153	2450	110	2560
Ammapatnam	1912	...	...	...	228	851	138	989	15	1004	51	1055
"	1913	...	...	...	109	727	183	910	141	1051	120	1171
"	1914	...	...	...	59	194	23	217	Closed.	217	Closed.	217
Puducottah	1912	...	...	...	272	1318	339	1657	605	2262	430	2692
"	1913	...	...	...	277	1482	247	1729	327	2056	161	2217
"	1914	...	...	...	185	1277	191	1468	149	1617	74	1691
Aranthangi	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	8	8	179	187	172	359	122	481
Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Madura Circle:—												
Madura	1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1178	603	1781	563	2344
"	1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1739	766	2505
"	1914	293	246	539	438	977	557	1534	851	2385	1045	3430
Pamban	1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	78	201	93	294
"	1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224	68	292
"	1914	48	10	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
Mandapam	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	128	128	382	510	762	1272	758	2030
"	1914	...	...	...	136	352	174	526	247	773	291	1064
Timnevelly	1912	94	122	216	147	356	238	594	364	958	399	1357
"	1913	121	88	209	113	354	112	466	186	652	291	943
"	1914	133	108	241	312	759	265	1024	522	1546	607	2153
Tataparai	1912	256	191	447	433	1052	761	1813	741	2554	801	3355
"	1913	267	352	619	157	440	180	620	302	922	214	1136
"	1914	122	161	283	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin (For- warding Agency)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tondi	1912	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1070	360	1430
"	1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	1409
"	1914	111	56	167	44	211	30	241	77	318	59	377
Agencies.	Years.				July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.
Madura	1912	...	...	...	537	2881	639	3520	624	4144	534	4678
"	1913	...	...	...	616	3121	609	3730	577	4307	476	4783
"	1914	...	...	...	876	4306	610	4916	543	5459	243	5702
Pamban	1912	...	...	...	132	426	100	526	86	612	94	706
"	1913	...	...	...	75	367	67	434	71	505	45	550
"	1914	...	...	...	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
Mandapam	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	829	2859	421	3280	462	3742	139	3881
"	1914	...	...	...	340	1404	260	1664	192	1856	233	2089
Timnevelly	1912	...	...	...	400	1757	251	2008	289	2297	312	2609
"	1913	...	...	...	260	1203	158	1361	118	1479	69	1548
"	1914	...	...	...	573	2726	511	3237	446	3683	463	4146
Tataparai	1912	...	...	...	678	4033	620	4653	742	5395	558	5953
"	1913	...	...	...	352	1488	192	1680	187	1867	70	1937
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin (For- warding Agency)	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	423	1853	204	2057	585	2642	375	3017
Tondi	1912	...	...	...	402	1811	150	1961	257	2218	174	2392
"	1913	...	...	...	63	440	25	465	20	485	17	502
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Closed Agencies :—												
Cocoonada	1912	..	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69	49	118
"	1913	6	15	21	37	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182
"	1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	...	118
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	1912	...	27	27	12	89	81	70	44	114	10	124
"	1913	19	25	44	2	46	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	6	5	11	10	21	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	1912	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710	7365	18075	11717	29792	12546	42338
	1913	3491	3911	7402	4837	12239	9328	21567	14882	36449	15063	51512
	1914	2544	2798	5342	4030	9372	6623	15995	10544	26539	11804	38343

Agencies.	Years.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.	Oct.	Total.
Cocoonada	1912	38	156	15	171	...	171	7	178
"	1913	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58	Closed	58
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anantapur	1912	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangalore	1912	64	246	53	299	18	317	47	364
"	1913	50	168	24	192	24	216	31	247
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hubli	1912	39	163	16	179	34	213	44	257
"	1913	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46	Closed	46
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21	Closed	21
"	1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	1912	11239	53577	9954	63531	10223	73754	9598	83352
	1913	11610	63122	9561	72683	9228	81911	6409	88320
	1914	10839	49182	7225	56407	5883	62290	3057	65346



Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 13th November, 1914, at 2-30 p.m.

Present.—Hon. R. Huyshe Eliot (Kandy), Messrs. F. H. Layard (Kandy), H. F. Laycock (Dickoya P. A.), Neill G. Campbell (Nuwara Eliya Dists. P. A.), Walter C. Hawkes (Chairman and Hon. Sec. Hewaheta P. A.), Geo. Benzie (Pussellawa P. A.), H. S. Jeaffreson Colombo, E. R. Waldoek (Colombo), R. W. Carmichael (Visitor), A. M. Carmichael (Kelani Valley P. A.), H. M. Picken (Chairman Pussellawa P. A.), C. Gooldin (Hon. Sec. Maskeliya P. A.), A. P. Jukes (Maskeliya P. A.), J. S. Patterson (Kandy), C. D. Hunt (Hon. Sec. K. K. and

Panwila P. A.), J. Mitchell (Drayton, Kotagalla, Visitor), A. A. Franklin (Chairman Kegalle P. A.), A. J. Percy Wills (Chairman Haputale P. A.), John A. Coombe (Haputale, Visitor), H. B. Daniell (Dickoya P. A.), S. B. Hamer (Hon. Sec. Kandy Dists. P. A.), Martin M. Smith (Kandy), D. Westland (Pussellawa Visitor), A. Lee Simpson (Kandy Dists. P. A.), Wallace R. Westland (Kandy), G. W. Hunter Blair (K. K. and Panwila P. A.), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P. A.), Gerald Abbott (Matale P. A.), Jocelyn H. Thomas (Dimbula, Visitor), Chas. Gibbon (Visitor), H. S. Stevens (Visitor), J. G. Napier (K. K. and Panwila P. A.), J. F. W. Brockman (Hon. Sec. Matale P. A.), H. S. Cameron (Chairman Matale P. A.) Nigel I. Lee (Kandy), L. St. G. Carey (Hewaheta P. A.), G. F. Farquharson (Kandy), T. Gidden (Kandy), A. Thorp (Matale P. A.), O. Balean (Ambegamuwa P. A.), P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Sec. Pussellawa P. A.), W. T. Miller (Visitor), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), J. B. Coles (Kandy), H. Inglis (Kalutara P. A.), W. N. Tisdall (Kandy), H. G. Eccles (Chairman Dickoya P. A.), C. J. Owen (Chairman Uda Pussellawa P. A.), Geo. Brown (Chairman Sabaragamuwa P. A.), E. C. Villiers

Hon. Sec. Sabaragamuwa P. A.), S. P. Blackmore (Amberuwa P. A.), Huntley Wilkinson (Hon. Sec. Dimbula P. A.), A. T. Sydney Smith (Dimbula P. A.), A. J. Hamilton Harding (Chairman Dimbula P. A.), G. F. Clarke (Visitor), J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman Punduloya P. A.), M. Milne (Chairman Kotmalie P. A.), F. R. Bissett (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), H. L. Egan (Punduloya P. A.), Wm. Sinclair (Rangala P. A.), A. S. Long Price (Kandy), J. Hulme King (Kurunegalle P. A.), H. B. T. Boucher (Chairman and Hon. Sec. Rangala P. A.), C. B. Prettijohn (Chairman Maskeliya P. A.), William Gibson (Haputala P. A.), R. B. Arthur (Bogawantalawa, Visitor), Carr Hamond and Hew Kennedy (Chairman and Acting Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon). 58 members and 10 visitors.

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 4th September, 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

Submitted letters and telegrams from the following members expressing regret at inability to be present at meeting: Messrs. W. de Lemos, J. Graeme Sinclair, A. Bowie, N. C. Rolt, T. Y. Wright, J. R. Barkley, R. Lylius, M. L. Wilkins, J. M. Mackenzie, L. Bayly, J. C. Mitchell, T. L. Villiers and Chairman, Chamber of Commerce.

MR. STILL'S APPLICATION FOR LEAVE.

The CHAIRMAN having explained that having circularised members of Committee regarding Mr. Still's application for an advancement of his leave, and having received a practically unanimous expression of opinion that Mr. Still's request be granted, said he took it upon himself to grant the leave applied for.

Resolved unanimously.—"That the action of the Chairman be confirmed."

ELECTION OF SECRETARY.

Read letters from applicants for the post of Acting Secretary.

Resolved.—"That Mr. Kennedy be asked to act in the full capacity of Chairman and Secretary until the annual general meeting in February."

Resolved.—"That a vote of thanks be accorded to Mr. Carr Hamond for the assistance rendered to the Planters' Association since the departure of Mr. Still."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Read letter from Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, nominating Mr. H. S. Jeaffreson to fill an existing vacancy among the representatives of the Chamber on the Planters' Association Committee.

Resolved.—"That Mr. Jeaffreson be appointed."

Read letter from Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A. nominating Mr. Bissett to serve on the Planters' Association General Committee in place of Mr. A. J. Stephens.

Resolved.—"That Mr. Bissett be appointed."

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

TRUSTEES OF DISTRICT PROPERTY.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that this question had now become merged in the larger one of Incorporation of the Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Resolved.—"That all members of Committee be circulated to the effect that this question will be brought up for discussion at the next meeting of this Committee as action in this respect can only be taken at a general meeting of the Planters' Association."

PLANTERS AND VOLUNTEERING.

Read letters from the Nuwara Eliya and the Badulla Planters' Associations regarding Volunteering.

Resolved.—"That the general Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon feel very strongly that similar opportunities should be afforded to the European Planting Community of this Island to train themselves for local defence in a manner similar to what is being done in the United Kingdom with a very strong hope that they may be allowed in time to assume some responsibility in local defence."

LAND SETTLEMENT.

Read letter from the Badulla P. A. regarding land purchased from the Land Settlement Officers.

Resolved.—"That as no members of the Badulla P. A. were present and pending the receipt of a reply to our letter of the 14th October, the matter be held over till the next general Committee meeting."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Read letters from Chairman, District, and Provincial Road Committees re appointment of a member to serve on these Committees for the term ending December 31st, 1915, in place of Mr. Still resigned.

Resolved.—"That Mr. Martin Smith be nominated."

Read correspondence with the Director of Agriculture as follows:—

Kandy, November 7th, 1914.

R. N. LYNE, Esq.,
Director of Agriculture,
Peradeniya.

SIR,

I write to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 6th instant, and thank you for sending a list of seeds available.

The matter will be brought to the notice of my Committee on Friday next.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) HEW KENNEDY,
Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary regarding private work in Imperial Institute.

Resolved.—"That this be published in the 'Planting Gazette.'"

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary as follows:—

Colonial Secretary's Office.
Colombo, 25th September, 1914.

THE SECRETARY.

Planters' Association, Ceylon.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 8th September, 1914, and to state that the proposed regulations under section 8 of Ordinance No. 5 of 1901, have been approved by His Excellency the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council, and will be duly published in the "Government Gazette," after proclaiming "Shot-hole Borer" to be an insect pest within the meaning of the Ordinance.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Sgd.) _____
for Colonial Secretary.

MEDICAL WANTS COMMITTEE.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary notifying the appointment of Mr. T. L. Villiers to serve on this Committee.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.

Read letter from Sir Allan Perry appealing for subscriptions to the St. John Ambulance Association.

THE CHAIRMAN informed members that lists had been sent out to all District Planters' Associations.

PLAGUE.

Read letter from the Kandy District Planters' Association regarding quarantine regulation in Ragama Camp.

THE CHAIRMAN informed members that the papers on this subject had been sent to the Honorary Secretary of the Kandy District Planters' Association.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1914.

The following sub-Committee was appointed to draft the annual report for 1914:—The Hon'ble Mr. R. Huyshe-Eliot, Messrs. H. J. Temple, M. L. Wilkins, W. Coombe, F. H. Layard, W. N. Tisdall, J. G. Sinclair, A. M. Carmichael, Neill G. Campbell, Edward W. Keith, Wm. Sinclair, A. S. Long Price, L. St. G. Carey, G. C. Bliss, J. B. Coles, Nigel I. Lee, T. Y. Wright, and Chairman and Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

ESTIMATES OF CROPS FOR 1915.

District Planters' Associations have been circularized asking for these returns to be sent in by December 20th.

FINANCING OF ESTATES.

The sub-Committee's report was as follows:—

"That in the opinion of this sub-Committee it would be unwise to go into the question of financing Estates at the present time but that the position is being carefully watched and action will be taken should the necessity arise."

Letter from the Chairman Passara Planters' Association regarding (1) Price at which rice should be issued to coolies; (2) amount of work and pay to be given to Tamil Labour; (3) restricting movements of coolies; was read.

This sub-Committee does not consider the proposals at all feasible or advisable.

Resolved:—"That the sub-Committee's report is approved of."

The following letter was read:

Telegrams: "Botanic," Peradeniya.
Department of Agriculture,
Peradeniya, Ceylon.
October, 15th, 1914.

HEW KENNEDY, Esq.,
J.P., U.P.M., Chairman,
Planters' Association,
Fairlawn, Maskellya.

POSSIBLE SHORTAGE OF FOOD.

SIR,

We are taking precautionary steps against a possible shortage of food in the island should supplies be interrupted or unemployment become serious and I suggest that Superintendents be advised to encourage vegetable growing among coolies on estates giving them land for that purpose if required. We should be glad to assist in procuring seeds.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. N. LYNE,
Director of Agriculture.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, October 22nd, 1914.

THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE,
Peradeniya.

SIR,

Your letter No. 4,286 of the 15th instant. The matter will be brought up at the next Committee meeting of the Planters' Association, but in the meanwhile if you could inform me what varieties of seeds are available and the price, the information would be most valuable.

I am, etc.,
(Signed) HEW KENNEDY,
Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon.

Department of Agriculture,
Peradeniya, Ceylon,
November 6th, 1914.

HEW, KENNEDY, Esq.,
Chairman, Planters' Association,
Kandy.

SIR,

I enclose list of seeds that can be supplied; the price is 1 cents per packet.

The Secretary, Ceylon Agricultural Society, informed me on the 24th ultimo he had sent the information required by you.

Yours, faithfully,
(Signed) R. N. LYNE,
Director of Agriculture.

Alanga	Kekiri
Amaranthus	Kirihenda
Asparagus	Kohl Rabi
Bandakka	Leek
Beans	Lettuce
Beet	Luffa
Bitter Gourd	Maize
Brinjals	Mé
Brocoli	Mellon
Brussels Sprout	Onion
Cabbage	Parsley
Carrot	Peas

Cauliflower	Princess Bean
Celery	Pumpkin
Chili	Radish
Cress	Salsify
Cucumber	Snake Gourd
Dhall	Spinach
Groundnut	Tomato
Kale	Turnip
Katurumurunga	Vegetable Marrow

ESTATE AGENTS' ASSOCIATION.

Read letter from Estate Agents' Association regarding, *inter alia*, price at which rice should be issued to coolies.

Australia Buildings,
Colombo, September 10th, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

At a recent meeting of this Association, I was instructed to address you in regard to the following questions:—

1. PRICE AT WHICH RICE SHOULD BE ISSUED TO COOLIES.—This question was previously discussed at a former meeting and a sub-committee was appointed to go further into the matter with a view to ascertaining whether it would be possible to arrive at some method whereby coolies on estates could be charged a price more nearly approximating the cost than has hitherto obtained.

I enclose for your information a copy of the sub-committee's report, and am instructed to request you to invite your Committee's assistance in carrying the recommendations into effect if approval. It is of course understood by Members of my Association that it will be necessary to make provision in some cases for the extra cost of transport from the nearest Railway Station to the more outlying estates in various districts, and further, in cases where different standards of qualities of rice are used a rate might be given for such qualities.

Closely in connection with the above subject, I am desirous to call your attention to a letter which appeared in the "Times of Ceylon" on the 28th ultimo signed by Mr. W. A. Gordon, in which he suggests that it would be advantageous for rice to be dealt with by weight instead of by measurement. My Association consider the suggestion well worthy of consideration, and I am desirous to ask you to commend it to your Committee's careful consideration, and I shall be glad to hear in due course whether the suggestion meets with the approval of those who have practical experience on the subject.

2. THE PROPOSED GIFT OF TEA TO THE FORCES.—The correspondence on this proposition was fully considered. The feeling of the Meeting was in favour of a general support to the Prince of Wales's Fund, but, at the same time, this Association had no desire to discourage the presentation of Tea from those who were inclined to offer it.

3. THE CEYLON CONTINGENT.—No definite information appears to be available as to whether this Contingent will proceed to Europe or not, nor is there any indication given as to the probable length of service. In these circumstances it naturally follows that those responsible for the management of estates find themselves in a certain amount of difficulty when asked as to what terms would be given to those Superintendents who have volunteered for the Contingent. Provided the proprietors' consent is obtained, the feeling of my Association is that three months' half pay should be recommended, and where it is at all possible employment to be found in the same employ when the Contingent is disbanded.

4. MEDICAL WANTS COMMITTEE.—Your letter of the 18th ultimo was duly considered, and Mr. T. L. Villiers was unanimously appointed to represent this Association as a member of the Medical Wants Committee subject to approval. I shall be glad if you will

be so good as to submit Mr. Villiers's name to Government, and advise me in due course if his nomination is approved.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) L. DES CLAYES,
Honorary Secretary.

Read correspondence with the Colonial Secretary as follows:—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 17th September, 1914.

THE HON'BLE,
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour to inquire whether there would be any difficulty in dealing with rice sent by the Ceylon Government Railway by weight instead of by measure.

It appears probable that European firms might be willing to come into competition with the Chetties if rice could be dealt with altogether by weight, but I have been informed that there might be some objection raised by the Ceylon Government Railway on account of the variability of the weight at different elevations or under different climatic conditions.

I shall be much obliged if you will be so kind as to give me any information available on this subject.

I am, Sir,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 24th October, 1914.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 17th September, 1914, regarding the question of dealing with rice on the Ceylon Government Railway by weight instead of by measure, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to state that for the reasons given by the General Manager of the Railway in the enclosed memorandum, Government is not prepared to make any alteration in the present system of dealing with rice.

I am, Sir,
(Signed) _____
for Colonial Secretary.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

MEMORANDUM REFERRED TO.

1. The adoption of a system of weighing rice on the Railway would entail a very large increase in the staff, delay in despatch and receipt of consignments with consequent detention of rolling stock and in the end disputes as to the exact weights dealt with.

2. It does not appear to me to be possible to carry out this suggestion without a large increase in the cost of transport and interference with other work of the Railway.

3. I might add that the grain traffic on English Railways is dealt with in a similar manner to that adopted on the Ceylon Government Railway with the difference that the Public in Ceylon get the advantage of having their rice conveyed in covered sealed wagons, whereas in England the grain is largely conveyed in open wagons simply sheeted as protection against weather.

RESOLVED.—"That copies of the correspondence be forwarded to the Estate Agents' Association and their co-operation and advice solicited."

COOLY FOOD SUPPLY.

Read letter from Director, Department of Agriculture as follows:—

JOHN STILL ESQUIRE,
Kandy.

Department, of Agriculture,
Peradeniya, Ceylon 28th September, 1914.

DEAR STILL,

We have a crop of paddy ripening at Maha, which will yield white rice suitable perhaps for estate coolies. Would you care to take it for distribution and trial? There will be fifty or sixty bags probably and the price about Rs. 4.80 free on rail Talawa. We shall not be able to thresh it till the rains are over, say January, so you could not get it till then.

Sincerely Yours,

(Signed) B. N. LYNE.

RESOLVED.—“That any members desirous of purchasing quantities of this rice are requested to apply to the Acting Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.”

EXCISE.

Read report of the sub-Committee appointed to examine and report on Mr. Villiers's Excise Scheme as follows:—

“That this sub-Committee is in favour of the following recommendations being made to the General Committee of the Planters' Association.

“That Government be asked whether more Unofficial Police Magistrates can be appointed in the neighbourhood of Taverns.”

RESOLVED.—“That Government be asked whether some improved method of inspection of taverns cannot be instituted.”

KELANI VALLEY DIGOWA ESTATE COOLY CASE.

The letters from the Chief Construction Engineer and the Senior Assistant Engineer, Chilaw Railway, having only come to hand two days prior to the Meeting it was Resolved:—“That a sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon, and Chairman and Hon. Secretary, Kelani Valley P. A., be appointed to go into the matter and act in the terms of the Resolution passed at the General Committee Meeting held on the 4th September, 1914.”

LUGGAGE INSURANCE.

Read correspondence with the Acting General Manager, Ceylon Government Railway, as follows:—

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON,
Kandy, 21st July, 1914.

THE GENERAL MANAGER,
Ceylon Government Railway,
Colombo,

SIR,

I am directed to inquire whether you will kindly provide wire and lead seals at Railway Stations for the convenience of passengers wishing to insure their luggage.

I am, Sir,

(Signed) JOHN STILL.
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office,
Colombo, 12th August, 1914.

SUBJECT: LUGGAGE INSURANCE.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association, Kandy.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 21st ultimo, I have the honour to state that the existing arrangement is to seal in wax with

the station seal inquired packages previously sealed by consignee, which appears to meet the case.

2. It is very desirable that all luggage and parcels especially those sent by messengers should be sealed before they are delivered at the station.

I am, Sir,

(Signed) D. MACMILLAN,
Acting General Manager.
M. C.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy. 4th November, 1914

THE GENERAL MANAGER,
Ceylon Government Railway,
Colombo.

LUGGAGE INSURANCE.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No. 2807/6718. I have the honour to enquire whether any charge is made for sealing packages at Railway Stations.

I am, Sir,

(Signed) CARR HAMOND,
Acting Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

General Manager's Office,
Colombo, 11th November 1914

SUBJECT: LUGGAGE INSURANCE.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 4th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the charge made for insurance, viz., 1 per cent. on value (Minimum charge Re. 1/-) covers the cost of seal affixed by this Department.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) J. M. ORKNEY,
for General Manager

THE ACTING SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy

CEYLON ASSOCIATION IN LONDON.

Read correspondence with the London Association regarding:—

- (1) Import Duty on Tea entering Russia,
- (2) Labour Supply.

Read correspondence re Ceylon Contingent inquiring date of sailing and probable number and our reply thereto. The Committee then adjourned to the “Fergusson Hall” for the discussion on the Tea Gift.

[The proceedings regarding the tea gift appear elsewhere.]

The Agenda was then considered.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Read following Resolution from Ramboda P. A.:—“That the amount collected in Tea and cash for the Ceylon Tea Gift be published weekly.”

RESOLVED:—“That no lists or totals be published in the present.”

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce,
Colombo, 30th October, 1914.

HEW KENNEDY ESQ.,
Chairman,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to enclose for your information copy of a letter received from the Manager of the Cargo Boat Despatch Co., Colombo, addressed to the Chairman of the Chamber, dated the 26th instant, offering to ship free of Boat and Cooly hire the Tea received on account of the Ceylon Tea Gift, and also copy of my reply.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) F. M. SIMPSON,
Secretary.

The Cargo Boat Despatch Co.,
Colombo, October 26th, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Chamber of Commerce,
Colombo.

DEAR SIR,

We beg to offer to ship the Gift of Tea with the Planting Districts intend to send to England, free of Boat and Cooly hire at the Wharf, if the Railway Way Bill is sent to us.

The clothes, etc., shipped by Messrs. E. B. Creasy & Co. and Percy H. Fradd & Co., through our Company have also not been charged for.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) HORACE E. DE KRETSEE,
Manager.

Read correspondence with Chamber of Commerce regarding an offer to ship the Gifted Tea free.

RESOLVED:—"That the Secretary do write and thank the Cargo Boat Despatch Company for their spontaneous and generous offer.

ESTATE AGENTS' ASSOCIATION.

Read correspondence with Estate Agents' Association.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Maskeliya, September 23rd, 1914.

HON'BLE MR. W. H. FIGG,
Chairman of the Estate Agents' Association,
Colombo,

DEAR SIR,

I am writing to enlist your co-operation and assistance in the matter of collecting for the gift of tea to the families of the Naval and Military Forces.

There is need for a certain amount of hurry in getting subscriptions of Tea and money sent in, so I will be greatly obliged if you will spare some of your valuable time in assisting me to give effect to the resolution passed by the Planters' Association this month, so that the gift may attain proportions worthy of Ceylon.

As you are aware, this is the gift of Ceylon, so general co-operation of all nationalities is invited. Collecting lists are being sent to the Secretary of the Estate Agents' Association today and I will be greatly obliged to you will distribute these to any one who will be good enough to assist in collecting.

I am, Dear Sir,

(Signed) HEW KENNEDY,
Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, October 22nd, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association,
Fairlawn, Maskeliya.

DEAR SIR,

Your letter addressed to Mr. Figg as Chairman of the Estate Agents' Association was laid before the members of the Association today.

A letter has already been addressed to all the members of the Estate Agents' Association, drawing their attention to your advertisement in the newspapers for gifts of tea, but it would seem that the Ceylon Association regards the scheme as practicable, and the majority of the Directors of the Companies having their registered offices in London do not seem inclined to give the scheme much practical support.

As regards Companies controlled in Ceylon, you have already been informed of the general opinion of the Estate Agents' Association and whilst quite ready to encourage any movement that has a charitable intention, the opinion is maintained that the most practicable way of assisting the wives and families of the men serving their country is to contribute to the Prince of Wales's Fund, and this is the course that is being generally adopted, as you will have noticed from the lists of subscriptions.

I am, Dear Sir,

(Signed) TOM VILLIERS,
Chairman, Estate Agents' Association.
Colombo, October 5th, 1914.

COLOMBO HOMEWARD CONFERENCE.

Read Correspondence with the Secretary, Homeward Conference.

THE SECRETARY,

Kandy, October 22nd, 1914.

Homeward Shipping Conference,
C/o Messrs. Aitken Spence & Co., Colombo.

DEAR SIR,

I am directed to write and enquire from you whether a special rate would be allowed on consignment of tea for the Ceylon Gift to the families of the Naval and Military Forces.

I need hardly say that this concession if allowed, will be greatly appreciated by the subscribers to the gift and would admit of a considerably increased quantity of tea being despatched.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) CARR HAMOND,
Acting Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

COLOMBO HOMEWARD CONFERENCE.

Colombo, November 9th, 1914.

THE ACTING SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Nos. 40/41, Ward Street,
Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to your letters of the 22nd and 24th ultimo, I have pleasure in informing you that the steamer Lines constituting this Conference are prepared to take the consignment of Tea, being Ceylon's Gift to the families of the Naval and Military Forces, at the reduced rate of 19s. 10d. nett per 50 c't, the usual rate being 39s. 7d.

I shall be glad if you will let me from whom I am to obtain full particulars regarding the quantity ready for shipment, etc. etc.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed)
Local Secretary.

RESOLVED:—"That the Secretary do write and thank the Conference for agreeing to carry the gifted tea at reduced rates."

CORRESPONDENCE WITH GOVERNMENT.

Read correspondence with Government regarding duty No. /21698.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, October 23rd, 1914.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

"CEYLON TEA GIFT."

SIR,

I am directed to enquire whether, as a special concession, duty into England will be waived on all shipments of the Ceylon Gift of Tea to the families of the Naval and Military Forces.

The first consignment is now ready for despatch and I would be greatly obliged if enquiries on this could be made at an early date.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) CARR HAMOND,
Actg. Secy. P. A. of Ceylon.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, November 12th, 1914.

"CEYLON TEA GIFT."

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 6th November, 1914, I am directed to state that enquiries are being made as to whether any relaxation of customs duty on the gift of Ceylon Tea could be granted in England.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) H. M. M. MOORE,
for Colonial Secretary.

LOW COUNTRY PRODUCTS' ASSOCIATION.

Read correspondence with Low Country Products' Association.

Planters Association of Ceylon,
Maskeliya, 28th September, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,

Low Country Products' Association,
Colombo.

DEAR SIR,

I am writing to enlist your co-operation and assistance in the matter of collecting for the gift of tea to the families of the Naval and Military Forces.

There is need for a certain amount of hurry in getting subscriptions of tea and money sent in, so I will be greatly obliged if you will spare some of your valuable time in assisting me to give effect to the resolution passed by the Planters' Association this month, so that the gift may attain proportions worthy of Ceylon.

As you are aware, this is the gift of Ceylon, so general co-operation of all nationalities is invited. Collecting lists are being sent to the Secretary of the Low Country Products' Association today, and I will be greatly obliged if you will distribute these to any one who will be good enough to assist in collecting.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) HEW KENNEDY,
Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon.

LOW COUNTRY PRODUCTS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

41, Chatham Street,
Colombo, 5th November, 1914

THE CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association, Kandy.

GIFT OF CEYLON TEA.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 28th September addressed to the Chairman, L.P.A.C., will you please forward me another 12 lists as there are about 20 members in my Association who own tea.

I have already forwarded the lists sent me, with a letter of commendation to those members unless they have already made their donations through the District Associations.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. L. DE MEL,
Hon. Secretary, L.P.A.C.

COLOMBO TOWN GUARD.

Read correspondence with Secretary, Colombo Town Guard.

Colombo, 5th November, 1914.

CARR HAMOND, Esq.,
Secretary, Planters' Association,
Kandy,

CEYLON TEA GIFT TO THE BRITISH TROOPS.

DEAR SIR,

I am instructed by my Committee to forward you a cheque value Rs. 2,500, being portion of proceeds of the Smoking Concert given by A. & B. Companies, Colombo Town Guard in Colombo on 24th October last, towards the above fund.

I am to advise you that, if you would prefer a gift of tea, instead of the enclosed cheque, I can arrange for the quantity to be purchased in Colombo. Please own receipt.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) E. H. VIDAL,
Hon. Secretary, Colombo Town Guard
Smoking Concert
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 6th November, 1914.

E. H. VIDAL,
Hon. Secretary, Colombo Town Guard
Smoking Concert, Colombo.

DEAR SIR,

Your letter of the 5th instant enclosing a cheque for Rs. 2,500 has been handed to me by Mr. Carr Hamond today. Will you kindly convey to the members of the Town Guard my sincere thanks and appreciation of their most generous contribution to the tea gift.

I trust that this donation will encourage others to come forward with their subscriptions and so turn the gift, which is at present receiving very half-hearted support, into a well-supported fund.

As regards the concluding paragraph of your letter, Mr. Jeaffreson, writing on the 4th instant, very kindly made the same offer which I accepted, so that I regret that I cannot avail myself of the offer you so kindly make.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) HEW KENNEDY,
Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon.

RESOLVED:—"That a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the Committee of the Smoking Concert given by A. and B. Companies of the Colombo Town Guard."

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the proceedings at 6-10 p.m.

HEW KENNEDY,
Chairman and Acting Secretary,
P. A. of Ceylon



THE "THIRTY COMMITTEE."

TEA TO THE RUSSIAN TROOPS.

Rs. 15,000 Towards the Tea Gift.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" appointed to administer the proceeds of the export duty on tea levied under Ordinance No. 4 of 1894 for increasing the consumption of Ceylon tea in foreign lands and amended by Ordinance No. 21 of 1914, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 13th November, 1914, at 11-30 a.m.

Present.—The Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot, Messrs. H. G. Eccles, C. B. Prettijohn, William Gibson, G. C. Blise, F. H. Layard, Geo. Benzie, E. R. Waldock, H. S. Jeaffreson, J. H. Patterson, Martin M. Smith, H. F. Laycock, H. Inglis, J. B. Coles, T. Gidden, H. L. Egau (Visitor), and Hew Kennedy (Chairman and Acting Secretary.)

The Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" held at Kandy, on Friday, the 4th September, 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

Members of Committee.—Submitted letters and telegrams from the following members regretting inability to be present at meeting, Messrs. J. Graeme Sinclair, T. Y. Wright, T. L. Villiers and the Chairman Chamber of Commerce.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Read correspondence with Government regarding (1) Voting a sum of Rs. 30,000 to the Prince of Wales's Fund, (2) Voting a sum of Rs. 30,000 to be expended in purchasing tea for the Russian Troops.

Kandy, 7th September, 1914.

THE HON'BLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

THIRTY COMMITTEE.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward a copy of two resolutions passed at a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" held on the 4th instant.

(1) Resolved:—"That this Committee is in favour of making a gift of Rs. 30,000 to the Prince of Wales's Fund."

(2) "That enquiries be made regarding the feasibility of making a gift of Rs. 30,000 to be expended in buying and despatching tea to the Russian Troops."

It is understood by the Committee that the proposal to vote Rs. 30,000 to the Prince of Wales's Fund may be voted by Government owing to the legal difficulty which arises.

I am, however, directed to say that my Committee greatly hopes that some way will be found to enable this resolution to be rendered effective. The meeting was the best-attended one during the last three years and the members present were unanimous in their support of the resolutions. As you are no doubt aware the

"Thirty Committee" is now somewhat of an anachronism and we find it difficult to continue the pursuit of objects which have become very much less necessary than when the Cess was initiated.

The proposal contained in the second resolution is simpler and the chief difficulty may lie in despatching the gift if and when purchased. There can be no doubt that it is of a nature calculated to increase the consumption of Ceylon tea in foreign lands, but at the same time it was the strong feeling of the Committee that for the present no attempt should be made to gain advertisement from any gift made to the Army of our brave Allies. The advertisement, if it is impossible to make the gift without its proving an advertisement, will be deferred.

Before approaching the Russian Consul on the subject I am instructed to lay the proposal before Government.

I am, Sir,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary to the "Thirty Committee."
Colonial Secretary's Office,

Colombo, 23rd October, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
to the "Thirty Committee."

Sir,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 7th September, 1914, stating that the "Thirty Committee" have resolved to make (a) a gift of Rs. 80,000 to the Prince of Wales's War Fund and (b) a gift of Rs. 80,000 to be expended in the purchase of and despatch of tea to the Russian Troops.

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to state that the proposed appropriation is inadmissible under the existing law.

2. His Excellency has decided, with the advice of the Executive Council, that, to enable the "Thirty Committee" to give effect to their patriotic desires, an Ordinance specially validating the proposed gifts should be submitted to the Legislative Council as early as possible, and the Attorney-General has been asked to prepare a draft Ordinance accordingly.

I am, Sir,
(Signed) H. M. M. MOORE,
for Colonial Secretary.

Kandy, 24th September, 1914.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

"THIRTY COMMITTEE."

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 23rd September, 1914, No.—/17,259.

Please convey to His Excellency the Governor our appreciation of his kindness in meeting us so readily.

I am, Sir,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary to the "Thirty Committee."

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 24th September, 1914.

THE CONSUL FOR RUSSIA,
Colombo.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE RUSSIAN CONSUL.

DEAR SIR,

At a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" held on the 4th instant the following resolution was passed unanimously:—Resolution: "That enquiries be made regarding the feasibility of making a gift of Rs. 30,000 to be expended in buying and despatching tea to the Russian Troops."

All votes of money by this Committee have to be sanctioned by Government and I have today received from the Hon. the

Colonial Secretary a letter in which he states as follows:—"A gift of Rs. 80,000 to be expended in the purchase and despatch of tea to the Russian Troops.

"I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to state that the proposed appropriation is inadmissible under the existing law.

"His Excellency has, however, decided, with the advice of the Executive Council, that, to enable the "Thirty Committee" to give effect to their patriotic desires, an Ordinance specially validating the proposed gifts should be submitted to the Legislative Council as early as possible and the Attorney-General has been asked to prepare a draft Ordinance accordingly."

I shall be much obliged if you will kindly favour me with your advice as to the best method of making the gift. I can arrange to get the tea purchased in Ceylon and forwarded to any address you may specify. Possibly you might be able to get a Russian ship to take delivery free of charge.

What grade of tea would you consider the most desirable? This and any other information you can give will be appreciated.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

Colombo, 28th September, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters Association of Ceylon,
Ward Street, Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 24th instant, and take this opportunity to thank you much for the gift of Rs. 80,000 to be used for the purchase of tea for the Russian Troops.

I would suggest that the tea be sent by the first opportunity to Russia by one of the Russian steamers consigned to the Red Cross Society there, who will then distribute it. I have asked the Russian Volunteer Fleet in Petrograd by cable to allow the tea to be shipped to Russia free of freight by one of their steamers. I have till now not received a reply to my cable. Their reply will be communicated to you no sooner I receive it. If the parcel should consist of "Sweet common pekoe with thick cup" it would be very appreciable.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) B. KADOMTZEFF,
V. Consul for Russia.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 29th October, 1914.

THE CONSUL FOR RUSSIA,
Colombo.

DEAR SIR,

I write to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 28th instant, contents of which are noted. I will write again as soon as Government gives me final permission to spend the money.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary to the "Thirty Committee."

Colombo, 16th October, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Ward Street, Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

In continuation of my letter of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to advise that the Russian Volunteer Fleet will carry all tea for the Russian Red Cross Society free of freight. I am almost sure the Russian Government will not charge any duty on this tea.

Please convey on behalf of myself and my country-men, our

best thanks to the Ceylon Planters for their kind gift which will be much appreciated in Russia.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) B. KADOMTZEFF,
V. Consul for Russia.

Kandy, 29th September, 1914.

THE CONSUL FOR RUSSIA,
Colombo.

DEAR SIR,

I write to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, for which I thank you.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary to the "Thirty Committee."

Resolved:—"That this Committee is in favour of a sum of Rs. 30,000 being given to the Prince of Wales' Fund."

Resolved:—"That this Committee is in favour of a sum of Rs. 30,000 being expended in purchasing tea for the Russian Troops."

"That the Colombo Members of the 'Thirty Committee' be requested to undertake the purchase of the tea, and that the Secretary do write to the Russian Consul in Colombo and point out that the liability of this Committee ends with the purchase and delivery to him of the tea."

Considered Mr. F. H. Layard's proposal that this Committee undertake to pay the freight on all tea given under the Ceylon Tea Gift Scheme.

Mr. LAYARD asked whether he might withdraw his proposal in favour of the following suggestion, viz: That steps be taken to enable this Committee to hand over a sum of Rs. 15,000 to the Ceylon Tea Gift Scheme.

The Committee agreed to allow Mr. Layard to withdraw his original proposal.

Resolved:—"That this Committee approves that steps be taken to enable them to hand over a sum of Rs. 15,000 to the Ceylon Tea Gift Scheme."

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the proceedings.

HEW KENNEDY,
Chairman & Acting Secretary,
"Thirty Committee."

CEYLON TEA GIFT.

COMMITTEE MEETING AT KANDY.

Proceedings of a Committee meeting re Ceylon Tea Gift held at Kandy on Friday, the 13th November:—

Mr. CHAS GIBBON said that before proceeding with the meeting it was his pleasant duty to propose a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the report of the speeches made and the account of what happened at the farewell banquet given by His Excellency the Governor to the Ceylon Contingent prior to their departure, which he has obtained for and published in the "Planting Gazette." At the same time he proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Carr Hamond for having

done his best in sending out the Gazette as soon as possible as delay in obtaining these speeches was of course unavoidable.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Gibbon and said that although the speeches were not verbatim, it was the best he could do under the circumstances.

The discussion on the Ceylon Tea Gift then began by the Chairman explaining that this was a Committee Meeting to enable full discussion to take place, and so the Press could not, of course, be admitted but, as it was desirable that the general public should be informed of the exact position of affairs he had arranged for a verbatim report of the proceedings to be taken by a member of the Clerical Staff, and if the meeting agreed a precis would be published with the minutes of the General Committee Meeting. The meeting agreed to this procedure.

THE CORRESPONDENCE.

BETWEEN LONDON AND CEYLON.

The CHAIRMAN then said that he hoped every member present had copies of the correspondence between London and Ceylon. He said that we had only made one mention of the words "million pounds," and that was in the cable we sent to the London Association on the 21st August. This, however, was not the first mention of a million pounds, for he had here a copy of the *Times of Ceylon* of the 15th August wherein appeared a letter to the Editor signed by "H.W.," suggesting that Ceylon should give one million pounds of tea. "The original cable sent by us was intended purely and simply as one of enquiry as to whether a gift of tea would be acceptable for the troops in the field. The reasons for enquiring were two, the first being that Tea might not be useful for such a purpose, and the second reason was that in the South African War the 20,000 pounds of tea sent to the Ceylon Contingent by the Committee never reached them. On the day following the despatch of that cable an informal meeting of a few representative proprietary Planters was held at Hatton, and I asked those present whether in their opinion a gift of Tea should be suggested, and it was their unanimous opinion that if the reply to our cable of enquiry showed that Tea was acceptable a list should be opened at once.

"On or about the 13th of August I received a telegram and two or three letters from different people who had Tea to give suggesting that a gift of Tea should be made. The original idea of a gift of Tea to the Troops was altered by the General Meeting of the Planters' Association held on the 4th September, when it was decided to make the gift to the families of the Naval and Military forces. So much for the early stages from which you will see, gentlemen, that we have made no offer of any sort. In the papers we are criticised. We have heard it said that Mr. Still and I offered a million pounds of Tea to Lord Kitchener. We have never made that offer to Lord Kitchener or to any one else. I said so in a letter to the Press, and I cannot understand why people should not have accepted my statement. You remember, gentlemen, that the London Association sent us a cable, which was unfortunately temporarily mislaid. I have known all along exactly what happened, but for very good reasons I kept this to myself. The gentleman concerned has asked to be allowed to tell you exactly what occurred, and I will now give him the chance he is waiting for."

Mr. CARR HAMOND said: With your permission I have to say a few words about the telegram in question. It came when I was ill in bed. I put it with other papers to be dealt with on my table; it was mislaid there and I only found it some days later, when I immediately handed it to Mr. Still. I can only say that I am very sorry.

The CHAIRMAN then continued: Now you see that there is no great mystery about that telegram. I was not going to give away a man who was ill and made a blunder, and I think it is very good of Mr. Hamond to own up to his mistake. He asked me whether he might tell you what happened, and I replied that I thought everybody would appreciate his action if he were to do so. Well, gentlemen, if you have any criticisms to make, make them now, or for ever after hold your peace.

A short discussion took place, and Mr. Gibbon said that our cable was misunderstood by the Ceylon Association in London. He continued: However, let us now cease destruction and go wholeheartedly for construction. The million pounds gift has been quoted not only in the papers at Home, but has been alluded to from the pulpit of Westminster Abbey. It is incumbent upon us to do our best to try and get the tea. We are committed to the gift. I consider that we should individually ascertain from our proprietors and our Companies what they are prepared to give towards the gift. The Parent Association should circularise all members of the Planters' Association and enlist their sympathy and co-operation, and the Chairmen of the Low-Country Products Association be also asked to assist.

Mr. GIBSON suggested that the Chairman of the Low Country Products' Association be asked to join the Committee, the members of which are the Chairmen, Planters' Association of Ceylon, Chamber of Commerce, and Estate Agents' Association, and said that the Companies, Agents, Proprietors and Superintendents be circularised to ascertain what they are prepared to subscribe.

The CHAIRMAN in reply said that letters had been addressed to the Chairman of the Estate Agents' Association, Chamber of Commerce, Low Country Products' Association and all District Associations asking for their co-operation in collecting subscriptions.

Mr. GIBSON said that we must make a self-sacrifice now and work both individually and collectively and see that we get together a gift worthy of the good name of Ceylon. That we must make this self-sacrifice to uphold the honour of our Island. If everyone will put his hand into his pocket sufficient tea will be collected.

THE ORIGINAL CABLE.

The Hon. Mr. HUYSSHE ELIOT said that there was one point that had not been touched upon. That was the original cable which was sent from the Planters' Association, re a gift of tea to the troops. "This cable was com-

nunicated to the War Office, and we received a reply gratefully accepting the gift. At the General Meeting we altered the first proposal and passed a resolution that the tea should be given to the families of the Naval and Military forces, and I think that we should consider whether we can abandon the first suggestion or abandon the resolution. We must decide one way or the other as to whether this is to be given to the troops or to the families."

The CHAIRMAN replied that it was in his opinion a great pity that the resolution agreed upon by the Committee was not adhered to at the General Meeting, but that it could not be altered now.

Mr. TEMPLE wished to know whether any cash had been subscribed.

The CHAIRMAN replied in the affirmative.

Mr. TEMPLE then asked if the tea would be passed in to London duty free, and the CHAIRMAN said that a reply to this question had not yet been received.

Mr. TEMPLE then said: Gentlemen, we have heard a lot of rumours about this gift of tea. I think the CHAIRMAN has made a very candid statement. Suspicion and a little confusion had occurred through inadvertence, and no amount of talk will do any good, and I would like to propose a vote of confidence in our Chairman.

Mr. LAYARD seconded and said that the million pounds would take some time to collect, but there was no immediate hurry for the despatch of the whole amount; we could keep on sending consignments of Tea, and by degrees the whole amount would be obtained.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the meeting for their vote of confidence, and said that from the beginning his conscience was clear and all the criticism on the gift had in consequence not worried him at all, and he assured them he would do all in his power to make the gift as large as possible. He said that the great point now was the question of publication. We were undoubtedly committed in the eyes of the world to a million pounds. He had given the meeting the figures of tea and cash collected to date. Did the meeting wish him to publish these figures or not? He refused to take upon himself the deciding of so weighty a matter; it was for the members present to decide, not for him alone.

Mr. SHERIDAN PATERSON said that in his opinion it was not necessary to publish any figures now. He said that there was a fund in existence called the "Planters' Day's Pay Fund," and he hoped that every planter would subscribe his day's pay to the Tea Gift.

The CHAIRMAN supported the idea, but pointed out that any sort of coercion or compulsory subscription to any particular charity was dead against the principle of the Fund in question.

Mr. COLES suggested postponing publication for the present. He thought that by next month subscriptions to the Tea Gift would come in very well, as planters had already subscribed most liberally to other funds and wanted a little more time.

Mr. HAMILTON HARDING proposed that figures be published when the second consignment is sent.

Mr. GIBBON suggested publication in the "Gazette."

Mr. SIDGWICK suggested that each shipment be published.

It was finally resolved that no lists or totals be published for the present.

Mr. DEAKER enquired whether Tea will be bought with the cash subscribed, and the Chairman replied in the affirmative.

Mr. DOUGLAS WESTLAND enquired if Directors should obtain permission from the shareholders to subscribe to the Fund.

The CHAIRMAN said that he could not answer the question which was clearly one for consideration by the interested parties. He went on to say that Ceylon Companies had come forward and subscribed in a very liberal manner; that over 75 per cent. of the gift so far had been subscribed by proprietors and Companies, and although many individuals had given very generously, the general public had so far not done much towards the gift.

The Hon. Mr. HUYSE-ELIOT said that a million pounds of tea represents very nearly 4 lakhs of rupees. "It is a very difficult task to collect this. Many firms in London have not supported us. What we should do is to try to get the London Association and Directors of London Companies to take an interest in the matter and not to rely entirely on individuals to supply the tea."

COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON AND THE CEYLON ASSOCIATION IN LONDON ON THE SUBJECT OF "THE TEA GIFT."

Copy of the original cable despatched by the Planters' Association dated 17th August, 1914:—

Ceylon Association, 62, Gracechurch Street, London, please ascertain whether gift Ceylon tea acceptable Military Authorities for use in field kindly cable reply early.—STILL.

Reply received from Lord Kitchener dated 20th August, 1914:—

Pack Kandy Ceylon gratefully accept generous offer of tea for the troops.—KITCHENER.

Our cable to the Ceylon Association in London dated 21st August, 1914:—

Ceylon Association, 62, Gracechurch, Street, London, list of contributions Ceylon gift of tea to troops opened by Association here please collect donations Ceylon tea London we aim at million pounds.—STILL.

The London Association cable to us dated 1st September, 1914:—

Committee considers scheme impracticable thinks value intended contribution better devoted Prince of Wales's Fund.—LEAKE.

J. Still, Esq., Planters' Association, Kandy, Ceylon.

DEAR SIR,—I enclose copy of telegram received during the past week from Lord Kitchener and yourself. The War Office kindly undertook to cable Lord Kitchener's reply direct to you and I gather from your cablegram of yesterday that you have duly received the same.

We are sending out a circular inviting donations of tea for the troops under date 24th instant, you shall hear result

ERRATA.

Tea Gift Meeting commencing page 662 should precede Planters' Association Committee Meeting commencing page 654.

Pussellawa Planters' Association Meeting commencing page 673 should appear page 665 preceding Mr. Gaddum's remarks.

The Printers of the "Gazette" much regret these errors due to faults of make up in the Composing Room which was disorganised about that time owing to the Superintendent having left for war service and his successor not having taken over charge.

Ceylon Association in London, 61 & 62, Gracechurch Street, 27th August, 1914.

W. Martin Leake, Esq., Secretary, Ceylon Association in London, 61 & 62, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.

DEAR SIR,—I write to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo.

We are proceeding with the collection of tea locally, helped by the kind offer of the Chamber of Commerce to receive, store and despatch gifts, and by Government's decision to pass all tea gifts free on the railway.

It should I think be made quite clear that we had as a matter of fact made no offer when Lord Kitchener's telegram was received, but had merely requested you to enquire whether tea would be acceptable.—Yours faithfully (Sgd.) JOHN STILL, Secretary Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Planters' Association of Ceylon, Kandy, 21st September, 1914.

THE TEA GIFT.

Mr. GADDUM said it was time something was determined. He proposed to invite hearty co-operation individually and collectively to render the gift thoroughly worthy of Ceylon. None objected to such a gift and all were enthusiastic about it. The righteousness of the cause appealed to them strongly. He understood—and regretted—that some companies were not subscribing. If the Secretary wrote to all members of the Association to ascertain what each estate was doing, they might then learn how the district has responded.

Mr. MARLEY said Mr. Gaddum had spoken as a proprietor.

Mr. WESTLAND gladly supported Mr. Gaddum.

Mr. AGAR, in support, said it was up to the companies to respond, as individuals had so far responded admirably.

Mr. JOHNSTONE thought it was a private gift. The Agents had not been consulted. They were asking the companies to perform what they ought to do by themselves.

Mr. STEVENS said no personal matter should be made of this.

Mr. GADDUM repudiated such an intention.

BUCK thought the public—and not y alone—should be interested.

there was no doubt that a gift had was their duty to support. He suggested donations in the annual report. ad to such publication.

he knew for a certainty that com- the matter and that replies had been was better not to badger them. Let what they could on behalf of such a ested that everyone be asked to help. glad to have the assurance of Mr. nies were moving in the matter and ik it necessary to submit a resolution.

RICE ISSUES.

uggested that the district should com- me to restrict rice issues in the interests of the cooly himself. He said a considerable quantity of the rice issued the cooly parts with at low rates to the caddy-keeper who in turn sells at enhanced rates, making a huge profit. Let the cooly be paid its value in cash to enable him to purchase such articles as curry stuffs, etc.

Mr. CLAPHAM said in view of the enormous losses sustained he suggested curtailment of 1/8.

Messrs. GADDUM and CLAPHAM agreed that there must be uniformity in the restriction in the district.

Mr. STEVENS said that as they lost in many ways rice should be issued to coolies at cost price.

Mr. BENZIE questioned the feasibility of a hard-and-fast rule and thought there ought to be no trouble about the rice question in future, as Germany and Austria removed millions of bags of rice yearly from India before the war.

As there was no resolution before the meeting the discussion then ceased.

ELECTION OF A J.P. AND U.P.M.

Proposed by Mr. PICKEN, and seconded by Mr. WADDILOVE, Mr. M. Clapham was unanimously elected.

PESTS.

The CHAIRMAN then invited the attention of the members to Ordinance No. 5 of 1901, the conditions of which were to be complied with to enable them to secure immunity from pests.

REGULATION OF PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS.

Mr. BERESFORD BRUCE moved:

"That this Association do approach the Government (or the military authorities if we are under martial law), that all Local Boards (as long as this war lasts) meet once a month and arrange prices for the following month of all goods supplied by butchers and caddy-keepers. That printed lists be ready on the 1st of each month and issued to the public and also posted up in all prominent places in the town and adjoining villages."

In submitting a list of prices of foodstuffs, he said that if timely action was not taken prices were likely to be further raised. Already exorbitant prices were being charged for goods in stock.

PRICE LIST.

		Before the War.	After the War
		Cents.	Cents.
Chillies	1 lb.	25	38
Onions	1 lb.	06	10
Tamarind	1 lb.	06	12
Salt	1 measure	10	12
Garlic	1 lb.	36	50
Saffron	1 lb.	18	25
Maldivé-fish	1 lb.	40	75
Gram	1 measure	11	18
Cummin	1 lb.	36	50
Coriander	1 measure	18	25
Green peas	1 measure	15	18
Nattili-fish	1 lb.	25	31
Matches	per dos.	12	48

Mr. GADDUM seconded.

Mr. PICKEN said he kept a caddy and his prices had not gone up anything like that.

Mr. AGAR said complaint had better be made to the Local Board here first. His coolies had paid commission when currency notes were changed.

Mr. WESTLAND asked whether Mr. Beresford Bruce's resolution could not be circulated.

Mr. WALKER: The minutes of this meeting are published.

It was resolved:—"That the Government Agent of the Central Province, who was the Chairman of the Local Board, be informed of the matter."

PLANTERS' DAY'S PAY FUND.

Mr. PICKEN said it gave him great pleasure to bring to their notice a scheme of practical utility started in the Maskeliya District, called the Planters' Day's Pay Fund, to which he earnestly desired to draw their attention. All planters in Pussellawa subscribed to it. They should distinctly state to what Fund they desired to contribute, as some members had signed without mentioning what particular Fund they wished to support. The scheme is that every superintendent and assistant should promise one day's pay per month to any Fund they liked to name. He had been asked to collect for this District and hoped all members would make it a point of honour—on receipt of their month's salary—to send their donations to the collector to be computed as from November. The list was then circulated.

Mr. WESTLAND proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee of the Planters' Day's Pay Fund.

Mr. STEVENS seconded.—Carried.

Resolutions from the Pundaloya, Kandy District, and Nuwara Eliya Associations were read and approved.

GUN LICENSES.

The following letter was read:—

Sir,—I have the honour to request you to be good enough to direct all superintendents of estates, and through them all the others who may own firearms on the estates, to forward to the Kachcheri all gun licenses on their estates to be renewed for 1915. For every year for which a license has not been renewed, a fine equal to the stamp duty should be remitted together with stamp duty for a fresh license, *e.g.*, if a single-barrelled gun has not been licensed for two years, a sum of Rs. 2 and Re. 1 should be sent, and for a double-barrelled gun, a sum of Rs. 4 and Rs. 2. Licenses received after 31st December next will be treated as time expired and will not be renewed free of charge.—(Sgd.) by Assistant Government Agent.

The meeting terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chair.

KANDY DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Kandy District Planters' Association was held in the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Saturday, 7th November. Mr. E. F. Home presided, and the others present were:—Mr. G. F. Farquharson, Mr. A. Lee Simpson, Mr. G. J. Murray, Mr. R. W. Carmichael, Mr. G. Kenyon, Mr. W. A. F. Murray, Mr. J. R. Dashwood, Mr. J. A. M. Bond (Matale P.A.), Mr. A. V. Gould, Mr. A. Kenneth Pyper, Mr. Gordon Pyper, and Mr. S. R. Hamer (Hon. Secretary).

NURSING HOME, KANDY.

The CHAIRMAN referring to the proposal made by Mr. J. B. Coles to establish a Nursing Home at Kandy said that the matter had been brought up and discussed in Committee, and the following resolution which had been proposed by Mr. G. J. MURRAY and seconded by Mr. G. F. FARQUHARSON had their approval:—

"That Mr. J. B. COLES' proposal be sent to all the surrounding District Associations to be brought up at their meetings; that whatever support be given to the scheme by their Colombo Agents should not, however, prevent individuals in the District supporting it."

That matter, the CHAIRMAN continued, was quite apart from the question of additional paying wards. There was no reason why they should not have their Nursing Home as well. The matter lay not in their hands alone, but the various districts round Kandy would also be concerned in it. Without help it would be impossible to do anything. The only thing they had decided in Committee was to ask their help and then to appoint a small Committee to go into ways and means, and then, if it was found possible, they would run the Nursing Home.

The resolution of the Committee was agreed to.

ADDITIONAL PAYING WARDS IN HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN said that the matter of additional paying wards, which they certainly required for the Kandy Hospital, had also been discussed in Committee. That was quite separate from the question of the Nursing Home. The following resolution had been proposed in Committee by Mr. L. ST. GEO. CAREY and seconded by the HON. SECRETARY, subject to their approval:—

"That the Committee request Government to erect at least six additional paying wards to the Kandy Hospital as the present accommodation is totally insufficient for the large number of Planters in the District surrounding Kandy, as specific cases are forthcoming showing that accommodation at times in the past has been insufficient; and that this resolution be referred to the different Associations interested."

The meeting approved of the resolution.

SMALL-POX PATIENT FROM RAGAMA CAMP.

The SECRETARY brought up the following correspondence:—

Hunasgeria Group,
Wattegama, June 30th, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Kandy District P. A.

DEAR SIR,

I have to bring to your notice what would appear to be a case of gross carelessness on the part of the Ragama authorities. On the evening of the 22nd instant, eleven coolies arrived on this estate from Ragama. They were given a line and next morning were examined by the estate dispenser who reported that one of them was suffering from small-pox of four days' duration. As soon as I received this report I had the man isolated, informed the Arachchi, sent for the D.M.O., and wired to the Assistant Government Agent, Matale. As the D.M.O., Wattegama, did not turn up I wrote to him again at muster next morning, 24th instant, and sent my letter by a special cooly. At 7 a.m. the D.M.O. arrived and in answer to my question as to why he did not come on the 23rd instant, said that he only received my letter at 7.30 p.m., and it was then too late to visit a case of that kind. So he decided to come first thing in the morning. The Provincial Surgeon arrived in the evening, and after examination pronounced it a case of small-pox of five days' duration, proving that the man must have had a rash before he left the camp at Ragama. The patient also admitted to the Provincial Surgeon that he had been treated for fever in the camp.

The police guards supplied me are mostly raw recruits and have not the slightest knowledge of their duties. One of the police guarding the case sent the cooly who was acting as nurse with a letter and Rs. 2 to the caddais at Wattegama, to buy provisions. This cooly has not been heard of since, and the headmen are looking for him. When the news reached the lines that the small-pox patient had died three of his relations rushed up to see him and were not prevented from doing so by the Police guard. I have now isolated these new contacts.

One of the constables in charge of the contacts accused my watchman of stealing his money and without reference to anyone left his duty and marched this man and another into Kandy. There was absolutely no excuse for this as the Arachchi was on the estate and it was his duty to investigate a case of this nature. I shall be obliged if you will kindly represent these matters in the strongest possible manner, as, if proper care is not exercised at Ragama, the whole of the planting industry will be jeopardised.

Yours, &c.,
C. C. DU PRE MOORE,

To this the following reply was received from the Secretary, Planters' Association, Kandy:—

HON. SECRETARY,
Kandy District P.A.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to yours of the 29th ultimo, I have to inform you that the constable to blame was fined and dismissed.

It is not likely that the same difficulty will occur again with the Ragama Camp as great care is now being exercised.

Yours, &c.,
JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P.A. of Ceylon.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON then proposed and Mr. G. F. FARQUHARSON seconded the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—

"That in the opinion of this Association the reply received is totally inadequate and that the Association are still waiting to know as to what steps have been taken at Ragama to guard against a similar case in the future and also re the D.M.O. in the district not coming to the estate immediately to inquire into the cases of small-pox existing there."

ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR KANDY HOSPITAL.

The SECRETARY read the following letter:—

Colombo, 31st August, 1914.

S. R. HAMER, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary,
Kandy District P.A.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 8852 of the 17th instant, I have the honour to inform you that before your letter of the 4th idem reached me, it had been decided to send an extra medical man to the Kandy Hospital, who will proceed there soon.

The Apothecary at all Hospitals acts as clerk, in addition to his other duties. I see no reason to send a special clerk in this instance.

Yours, &c.,
ALLAN PERRY,
P.C.M.O.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON remarked that if they had an Additional Medical Officer there it would give the Apothecary much more time to attend to his duties at the Hospital, and that would be quite satisfactory.

The CHAIRMAN thought that the Surgeon of the Eye Hospital, which had just been opened, also gave some attention to the General Hospital.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON said that he mentioned in his Hospital Visitors' Report that that Surgeon had left.

HOSPITAL VISITORS' REPORT.

The SECRETARY read the following Hospital Visitors' Report:—

THE CHAIRMAN,
Kandy District P. A.

DEAR SIR,

Mr. Farquharson and I visited the Kandy Hospital at 4.30 p.m. on the 6th instant. Dr. Spaar not being at the hospital we were shown round the various wards by Dr. de Alwis. The number of patients in the Hospital are as follows:—Female Diarrhoea ward, one spare bed. Female surgical ward, full but not evercrowded. Female medical ward, one spare bed. Male medical ward, 20 beds; 21 patients. Male surgical ward, 20 beds

9 patients. No. 10 screen ward, not full. No. 10 ward, 22 beds, 21 patients. No. 9 estate ward, 22 beds, 22 patients. Male medical ward 22 beds, 20 patients.

On going round the new Eye Hospital we found everything in excellent order, and learnt that a large and steadily increasing number of patients daily attended for treatment. We much regret to find that the recently appointed Eye specialist has resigned and left the Hospital owing, we were told, to private reasons. Until another specialist is appointed Dr. Spaar is attending to patients. We were told by Dr. de Alwis that the Hospital has to be very careful as to the quantity of medicines used, and that at present estate dispensaries could not be supplied.

The number of male inmates in the hospital is 95; the number of female inmates 65; and the number of inmates in the House of Observation 2, making a total of 162.

(Signed) A. LEE SIMPSON,
G. F. FARQUHARSON,
Hospital Visitors.

The CHAIRMAN: Can you tell me why the Hospital cannot now supply estate dispensaries with Medicine?

Mr. G. F. FARQUHARSON: They cannot get the usual supplies from Europe owing to the war.

THE EYE HOSPITAL.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that there were plenty of cases of eye diseases in the District. They should request the P.C.M.O. to fill the vacant place without delay as it was an important matter. A qualified man should be sent up. He proposed:—

"That the P.C.M.O. be written to for another qualified medical eye specialist to replace the one who has left. This is necessary owing to the steadily increasing number daily of eye patients."

The motion was unanimously carried.

The War in Europe.

DEPARTURE OF MR. JOHN STILL TO THE FRONT.

The SECRETARY read the following letter:—

Fairlawn Group,
Maskeliya, October 18th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

Mr. Still has written to me to acquaint me with his earnest desire to go to England and volunteer for active service, and he asks whether he will be allowed to anticipate his leave which is due in January and go this month.

I will be obliged by your informing me whether in your opinion Mr. Still's request for leave should be acceded to.

I have no doubt that Mr. Carr Hamond, could, with the permission of the Proprietors' Labour Federation, attend in part to the duties of the Secretary of the Planters' Association and I would endeavour, with his assistance, to carry on, pending the next General Committee meeting on November 18th, when the questions of a successor to Mr. Still could be discussed.

I am, etc.,
HEW KENNEDY.

The CHAIRMAN: As far as our Association is concerned we are agreeable to the proposal.

FURTHER HELP FROM CEYLON.

The Hon. SECRETARY: The following resolution has been sent to this Association by the Hon. Secretary, Nuwara Eliya P.A., passed at a meeting of that Association on the 17th ultimo, for consideration and support:—

"That the members of this D.P.A. feel very strongly that further help in men should be offered from this island to assist in fighting in Europe, and that all local representative District P.A.'s be asked as a matter of urgency to pass an opinion on this matter to the P.A. of Ceylon, with the request that the Parent body pass the opinions on to the authorities for their consideration."

Mr. LEE SIMPSON said that, speaking for himself, he thought it would be better, at a time like that, when trained men were needed to go to the front without delay, they in Ceylon should try and relieve the Regulars so that they could leave straightaway.

Mr. G. KENYON remarked that everyone who could get away to volunteer for the front should be helped along.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON remarked that what was urgently wanted, as far as Ceylon was concerned, was for the C.P.R.C. to be mobilized to take over the work done by the Punjabis. That would enable all those people who were not able to go to the front, for various reasons, to serve their country usefully. The trained troops, the Regulars, would then be able to get away. Anybody who wanted to volunteer could do so.

Mr. G. KENYON: If one can soldier in Colombo he can equally well soldier in England for the matter of that. Everybody who has the time and can go to the front will do so.

The CHAIRMAN: Is this resolution to be supported? Members indicated their approval.

The CHAIRMAN: The Nuwara Eliya resolution has been supported.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: I am against.

The proposal to support was carried by the majority.

THE GIFT OF TEA.

The SECRETARY submitted the letter sent out by Mr. Hew Kennedy, already published, about the gift of tea.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that as the matter was to be brought up at the Committee meeting of the C.P.A. on Friday they had better let it stand over for the present.

PLANTERS' "ONE DAY PAY" SUBSCRIPTION.

The Hon. SECRETARY brought up the following suggestion made by a member of the planting community:—

Subscription lists of various sorts come round to everybody at this time and some of us are not able to subscribe though we may know them to be deserving of support. At the same time we have only to open our local or home papers to see that there are many funds in existence to which, had we the money and the opportunity, we should be glad to subscribe. One may quote in addition to the Prince of Wales's Fund such others as the Red Cross, our own Contingent, and the Belgian Relief Fund, to which latter there is no doubt every soul would wish to contribute.

*There is an old custom in the Navy that in the event of a man losing his life and leaving a widow behind him, or in any other deserving case of the sort, every one on board, from the Admiral downwards, subscribes "One Day's Pay, everybody's pocket being affected thereby in exact proportion.

A suggestion was started a day or two ago and was so favourably received by everybody to whom it was mentioned that it is possible all planters may regard it with equal favour. The suggestion is that every planter in the Island should subscribe. "One

Day's Pay" each month to a common fund under some such heading as the "Ceylon Planters' Pay day Fund," and that each month this money which would amount to a very large sum, shall be forwarded to some Charity which shall be decided by the votes of those subscribing.

If this scheme is approved of the following simple arrangements would be sufficient to insure its successful working.

Firstly the money and votes must be collected separately in each District. Mr.—of Estate, has very kindly undertaken this work in your District, and it is to him you are asked to reply to this letter in the first instance stating whether the suggestion meets with your approval or not.

Before the end of the month these gentlemen will receive the subscriptions from the Planters from whom they are collecting and will also ascertain the Charity or Fund to which each subscriber wishes the money to be given.

The National Bank of India will receive all subscriptions from District Collectors direct.

A small committee, consisting of three Planters kind enough to undertake the work, would be formed to make an abstract of all the individual votes and thereby ascertain which Charity or Fund has obtained the greatest number, and to have the power of authorising the payment of the money to that Charity.

These arrangements will admit of the publication of full results in the Local Press on the 10th of each month.

I am encouraged to hope for the success of this suggestion from the fact that we should not only all feel that we are doing something, however small, as individuals, but should also have the satisfaction of knowing that we are working together as Planters, and surely, at this time and for this purpose, such a result is not beyond the bounds of possibility.

The proposal was heartily supported.

NEW MEMBER.

On the motion of Mr. LEE SIMPSON seconded by the CHAIRMAN, Mr. S. C. Jones of Anniewatte, Kandy, was elected a member of the Association.

MEDICAL WANTS ORDINANCE.

The SECRETARY tabled copy of a notification received from Government, through the C.P.A., with reference to the Medical Wants Ordinance No. 9 of 1912.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the notice was important and explained the rebate system. Members could obtain copies from the Government Printer.

INDO-CYLON RAILWAY AND BOLTING.

The Hon. SECRETARY: The following resolution has been forwarded from the Pundaluoya District P.A. for consideration and support:—

"That owing to the railway being now open to India, the Parent Association be asked whether they could see their way to elaborating some scheme for preventing estate coolies from bolting to the Coast without leave, especially by rail."

The CHAIRMAN: I propose that we support the resolution. It is a sound one.

This was agreed to.

CROP ESTIMATE.

The SECRETARY submitted a letter from the Hon. Secretary, C.P.A., asking for the P.A. District crop estimate to be included in the annual report of the C.P.A., and pointed out to members that there should be no delay on their part in supplying the necessary information.

KALUTARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Kalutara Planters' Association met at the Tebawana Club on Saturday, 7th November, the Chairman, Mr. J. R. Barkley, presiding. Others present were:—Messrs. W. G. Dickinson, H. Inglis, L. G. Gapp, J. P. Ireson, C. E. A. Dias, R. M. Ash, H. A. Nance, F. W. Bridge, P. R. May, E. R. Devonshire, Trail, W. S. Niebecker (Hon. Secretary), and several visitors.

The CHAIRMAN said: Before the business of the meeting begins I have another sad duty to perform, and that is to ask you to pass a sincere vote of condolence with the relatives of Mr. Cyril Orr, Crown Proctor and J.P., U.P.M., of Kalutara, and Mr. A. J. Dawson, both of whom were members of this Association.

The vote was passed, all standing.

A letter of apology was announced from Mr. G. Thornton Pett regretting inability to attend.

MR. NIEBECKER OFF TO THE FRONT

The CHAIRMAN stated that Mr. Niebecker had decided to leave them and was going Home to fight for his country. They would all agree with him that they wished him the very best of luck. (Hear, hear.) They were all very sorry to lose him. Mr. Niebecker had been a great A.D.C. to himself in every way, and had been simply magnificent in carrying out the secretarial duties. They would all agree in wishing Mr. Niebecker a successful trip to the front and a speedy return. (Hear, hear.)

NEW SECRETARY.

The CHAIRMAN then stated that Mr. Ireson was willing to take over the onerous duties of Secretary. Mr. Johnson had undertaken to take on the "little job of work," while Mr. Niebecker was away. The appointment was seconded by Mr. Dickinson and agreed upon, Mr. Ireson, expressing his thanks, saying he would endeavour to do his best.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondence was read relating to coolies taken on by a member of the Galle district.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought this was a case which should be taken up. It had been proposed in Committee that day that it should be sent to the Parent Association. He thought that interference in any way with each other's coolies was to be deprecated very strongly at the present moment. The Kalutara rules should be very much more widely entertained. They could not help having snarks among them. He regretted the dreadful *faux pas* which occurred at Kandy, and announced that in view of the present state of affairs they had withdrawn the rules they had proposed. Concluding, he pointed out the necessity of sticking to their own rules at Kalutara which had been working so satisfactorily for so many years.

On the motion of Mr. NIEBECKER, seconded by Mr. BRIDGE, it was decided that the correspondence should be sent to Kandy.

The correspondence was considered in Committee.

Two letters were read regarding the financial state of Neboda Church, and a small Committee consisting of Messrs. Barkley, Inglis and Maclaren was appointed as a Church Committee to go fully into the question.

The matter was discussed in Committee, and public reference was made to a proposal to hold periodical services at Tebuwana Club. The question of these services will also be considered by the Committee.

A list was passed round and over Rs. 340 collected.

THE SABARAGAMUWA JUDGMENT.

Mr. Niebecker referred to the case which has already been reported in the "Times of Ceylon" and the judgment made by Mr. Crossman on a member of the Sabaragamuwa Association. It was either a disgraceful judgment, he thought or a disgraceful case of neglect, and he thought that it was up to the Sabaragamuwa Association thoroughly to investigate the whole matter, as it was not only a slur on them but on the whole planting community. (Hear, hear.) Several of the papers had vented their views very strongly, and he thought the matter ought to be investigated and that they should support the Association in any action it liked to take.

Mr. BRIDGE seconded.

Mr. DICKINSON thought that the demand for an enquiry did not necessarily mean support.

Mr. NIEBECKER: Give them our sympathy.

Mr. DICKINSON: Give them our sympathy afterwards.

Mr. GAPP thought that they should ask them to make an enquiry and then give them their support.

Mr. NIEBECKER: This is not only a judgment on the man, but it has been taken up by some of the irresponsible papers as a slur on the whole community.

Mr. DICKINSON backed up Mr. Gapp that there should be an enquiry first before they offered support.

Mr. INGLIS quite agreed with Mr. Gapp that they should see on what grounds the Judge had made his remarks. They were very strong, and he thought they ought to be sifted for the good of the whole community. Who was to blame? Was the planter, or had the judge gone out of his way to make these remarks?

Mr. DICKINSON proposed: "That the Sabaragamuwa Association be asked to make a searching enquiry into the case recently appearing in the local papers with regard to the treatment of coolies in Piniakande estate."

Mr. INGLIS seconded, also suggesting that the Secretary, in a covering letter, should point out that it was a slur on the whole community.

This was carried.

EXCISE ADVISORY BOARD.

A letter was received from the Parent P. A. pointing out that a member of the Excise Advisory Board had to be now elected.

Mr. INGLIS had fulfilled the duties in the past, but wished to be relieved, and stated that Mr. Thornton Pett

took a great deal of interest in Excise matters and would stand. He proposed his name, the CHAIRMAN seconded, and it was carried.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.

Messrs. Wilkins and Pickering were appointed hospital visitors for Neboda and Ingiriya hospitals, respectively.

ROADS.

The HON. SECRETARY stated that in view of the present situation he had written to the D.P.W. regarding the Agalwatte-Badureliya road, and the Pimbura hospital, but had so far received no reply, and thus was unable to inform the meeting what steps Government intended taking.

Mr. INGLIS thought that they should press for the hospital at Pimbura. He thought they ought to keep this matter before Government and try to get the hospital started.

The CHAIRMAN: I am entirely with you. I think it is a slur on Government the way it is hanging back. If Mr. Griffiths and Mr. Garnier had been here they would have spoken very strongly on the matter. I understand that absolutely nothing has been done.

Mr. GAPP: Nothing at all.

Mr. IRESON said that the way the metal had been laid since March was disgraceful. Whole stretches of the road had not been picked up and "blinding" had not been used. The metal was simply thrown down and lightly rolled in with a bullock roller. The result was that on whole tracks there was metal sticking up like knuckle bones. The only remedy was to have the whole metal relaid again. He thought they should pass a small vote of censure on the District Engineer for bad work.

The CHAIRMAN said, with regard to Mr. Ireson's statement, that he could cordially support what Mr. Ireson had said in the beginning of his speech. At the same time he thought it was a little hard on their District Engineer, who had a great deal of work to do, that they should pass a vote of censure on him. Rather than on him it should be, and he was sure Mr. Ireson agreed, the overseer on that portion of the road that should be done away with and "shot at dawn." (Laughter.) He came along the road the other day and it was terrible. There were over 300 yards "unblinded," and they could not find the roller on the road at ten minutes to nine that morning. He did not think that was the District Engineer's fault. The fault rested with the overseer, and he thought they should make it clearly understood that this road (the Tebuwana-Neboda road was referred to) had been complained of many times. It was getting narrower and proper supervision was not paid to it.

Mr. IRESON: What about the man who ought to have sacked him months ago?

The CHAIRMAN: He should be shot at dusk. (Laughter.)

Mr. IRESON: Well, let's get him shot then. (Laughter.)

Mr. DICKINSON asked if this was not done before the present engineer arrived.

Mr. IRESON: He is responsible for the present work between Tebuwana and Neboda.

The CHAIRMAN: He had both sections at one time, but they were divided.

Mr. NIEBECKER asked where the metal had been put down and not picked up.

Mr. IRESON: If it has been picked up it has been very imperfectly done. The portion he referred to was between Tebuwana and Neboda.

Mr. IRESON then proposed: "That in the opinion of this Association the work of remetting the roads in the district, more particularly between Tebuwana and Neboda is most imperfectly done and that it should be relaid as soon as possible."

Mr. MAY seconded, and ten voted for and several against, the resolution being carried.

TELEPHONES.

The SECRETARY said that he had no correspondence on telephones. They had a telephone Committee meeting that morning and the Chairman gave them the results of the work.

The CHAIRMAN said that unfortunately Mr. Ingleby was called away, but he had left a few notes. With regard to the telephone trunk route between Kalutara and Neboda he had received a letter, dated November 5th, from the P. M. G. stating that this route was in course of construction and that it was expected that the work would be completed before the end of the current year. The Chairman remarked that he considered this a very satisfactory result. All the original lines at present in the hands of the contractors would be completed by the end of the month with the exception of Millakande, Tempo and Neuchatel. The remaining work made satisfactory progress. Mr. Ingleby also said that all lines completed on the metallic circuit would be connected up as each work ended. He appealed for subscribers in order to pay the contractors' bill as promptly as possible, as the contractors were rather handicapped thereby.

Mr. INGLIS said the contract would be finished in January, and the time was drawing near to think of what should be done after that.

Mr. NIEBECKER: I suggest Government be asked to take it over.

Mr. INGLIS: A very good idea.

Mr. NIEBECKER: It will be more efficiently worked and we shall be better served by it.

Mr. DICKINSON suggest that the telephone Committee should make their own arrangements.

The CHAIRMAN said that morning in sub-Committee Mr. Ingleby announced to them that their building was at present rented on a lease and the lease elapsed at the end of the year. The renter wished to double it. The rent per month was Rs. 20 and he now wanted Rs. 40. He thought everybody would support Mr. Niebecker's resolution and vote that Government should be asked to consider

the possibility of taking over the whole line immediately the metallic circuit was completed.

Mr. DICKINSON again suggested that the telephone Committee should make their own arrangements.

Mr. NIEBECKER then proposed a formal resolution that Government be approached, which was seconded by the Chairman, and carried.

THE DAY'S PAY FUND.

The CHAIRMAN said on October 31st he received a letter from the Chairman of the Maskeliya P. A. asking him to give the scheme his whole-hearted support, and a number of circulars were sent out. On the 28th the scheme was discussed at Matugama and given unanimous support. He gave a précis of the scheme, which was to the effect that everybody connected with planting, such as contractors, teamakers, coolies, kanganyes, and even the crossing sweeper should give a day's pay to the fund. The whole thing was entirely voluntary and entirely anonymous. The whole matter could be put into the hands of a small Committee, and he trusted they would that day elect a small Committee for the purpose. The fund was entirely private, and no sums would be divulged. Great care would be taken that even 25 cents, if given for a certain purpose, would be sent to that purpose. Personally he thought that it was one of the finest schemes that had ever been thought out. He trusted the Kalutara subscriptions would, as in the past, be worthy of the name. Their generosity he was proud of, and he was sure the present fund would relieve them of some of the many and various calls to which one wished to subscribe but could not contribute to all without repleting their purse. The fund came as a great relief to them, and under the scheme they could vote that their contribution be applied to any particular purpose. It had been suggested that the fund should be much larger, but it seemed to him that the suggestion that it be called the Day's Pay Fund was unnecessary, but he thought the title of the Planter's One Day's Pay Fund met the case admirably. He hoped that the relations between Agents and planters would soon improve, and said they were heartily obliged to Mr. Goolden, who had now consented to his name being mentioned, for the scheme.

Mr. INGLIS said there was one thing he did not quite approve of, and that was asking coolies to give their day's pay.

The CHAIRMAN: It is all voluntary.

THE COOLY'S CONTRIBUTION.

Mr. INGLIS said that coolies would have to be asked. He had seen in other funds contributions from coolies and they must have been asked. If they were asked they would not understand the reason. They would think that it was a sort of levy and that we were getting short of money in England and were asking them to support people in England. He would like it to be understood that coolies should not be asked and that a day's pay was not to be taken from coolies.

The CHAIRMAN: To be refused.

Mr. INGLIS: Yes. Otherwise the scheme is an excellent one in every way.

Mr. DICKINSON said he would like to second this.

The CHAIRMAN said it would be an insult to the cooly to refuse his money, especially if he wanted to give it to the Indian Relief Fund.

BLACK LIST SUGGESTION.

Mr. MAY hoped that all patriotic planters would support the scheme, and if they didn't they should be put on a black list.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that it was entirely voluntary and that there was no black list. They were not supposed to know who put his name down.

Mr. INGLIS: Why not publish names?

Mr. NANCY proposed that they should publish districts and Mr. Inglis seconded.

Mr. DICKINSON proposed as an amendment that the original scheme be adhered to.

After some desultory discussion a vote was taken, and it was decided that the original scheme should be adhered to and no names published.

The Chairman, Mr. Inglis, and the Hon. Secretary were then appointed a Committee to deal with the local contributions.

RAILWAYS.

With regard to the District Railway, the CHAIRMAN announced that the matter had not been shelved in any way. He understood on good authority that it had received cordial support, but it was impossible for Government to approve of large expenditure at the moment. Directly capital expenditure again became possible he thought they would receive hearty co-operation from Government, and they would then bring the matter up again.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

PASSARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

LUNUGALLA HOSPITAL EXTENSION DELAYED.

Is HOSPITAL VISITING TO BECOME A FARCE?

Large Rice Shortages on Railway.

A Committee meeting was held at the Passara Gun Club Pavilion on November 14th, 1914, at 9 a.m.

Present.—Messrs. R. Bannerman (Chairman), J. J. Robinson, D. G. Norman, F. Fowler, W. Stewart Taylor, James Duncan, and Bernard Strachan, Hon. Secretary.

The business to be put before the general meeting was discussed.

A general meeting followed at 10 a.m. The following were present in addition to the above Committee:—Messrs. Geo. Stewart, A. Bisset, R. Gatehouse, A. E. Ogilvy, J. Massy, and G. K. Deaker (visitor).

Notice of meeting was read. Minutes of the last

general meeting and the special general meeting were confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

Proposed from the chair that Mr. Fowler be the member in place of Mr. S. C. Biddell, resigned.—Carried.

The Hon. Secretary was asked to write and find out who is the present member of the Medical Advisory Board.

With regard to the hospital at Lunugalla, Mr. FOWLER, who visited it lately, stated that the progress on the new buildings is very unsatisfactory, in spite of official assurance dated September 8th, 1914, that a lot of work would be done in the coming months, actual work done being the iron work of one ward and half the roof. In a recent case reported in the *Times of Ceylon*, planters were severely censured by a Magistrate for not sending their coolies to hospital soon enough, while here we have patients refused admission to this hospital owing to lack of accommodation due to delay on the part of the authorities in putting up the necessary building. Mr. Fowler again called attention to the non-carrying out of small suggestions made by the hospital visitors, and hoped that notice would in future be taken of these suggestions, else it was a waste of time visiting the hospital at all.

The meeting unanimously agreed with Mr. Fowler's remarks.

A DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER FOR MADULSIMA.

It was resolved again to approach the P.C.M.O. for the appointment of a qualified D.M.O. for Madulsima, in place of the D.M.A.

EPIDEMICS.

The Government Agent having notified his willingness to notify the press on the occurrence of a case of serious infectious disease, it was resolved to ask him to do so in future.

RESOLUTIONS.

In the absence of Mr. H. Clarke, the CHAIRMAN brought up the resolutions standing in Mr. Clarke's name.

(1) That Government be asked to reduce railway freight on rice for outlying districts.

(2) That the P.L.F. be asked to notify all estates under their control any changes in the rules they make from time to time.

In speaking to No. 1 the CHAIRMAN thought that the resolution only touched the fringe of a subject of the very greatest importance and until the whole subject of the existing taxation of estates above Nawalapitiya was tackled little good would be done by bringing up the matter, and it was resolved not to do so.

(No. 2) The Chairman and the meeting was of opinion that the P.L.F. always do notify any change of rules.

A resolution from the Punduloya Association was discussed, but did not receive the support of the meeting. It was agreed to re-consider it if a practicable scheme were brought forward by the above Association. Resolution referred to:—"That owing to the railway being now open to

India, the Parent Association be asked whether they could see their way to elaborating some scheme for preventing estate coolies from bolting to Coast without leave, especially by rail."

The working of the resolutions passed by the United Uva P.A.'s Committee were next discussed.

(1) Rice to be issued at cost price with a maximum of Rs. 6-50 a bushel was unanimously agreed to.

(2) That only $\frac{3}{4}$ of a bushel be issued to men, $\frac{1}{2}$ to women, and $\frac{1}{4}$ to children per mensem.

Mr. DUNCAN proposed that this should be altered as follows:—In place of per mensem, read per every four weeks.—Carried.

(3) That a maximum of half balance due only be paid monthly.

It was decided that this be deleted as it was not necessary.

(4) It was agreed that tundes be headed "United Uva P.A."; in cases when members are unwilling to pay off coolies, the omission of these words to signify their readiness to do so. By adopting this plan no correspondence is necessary in either instance, in the former, coolies must not be employed under any circumstances.

DAY'S PAY FUND.

The proposal being unanimously supported, a Committee consisting of the present collectors with Mr. A. E. Ogilvy as Hon. Secretary was appointed.

CEYLON GIFT OF TEA.

After a good deal of discussion it was decided to wait for the recommendations of the Committee of the Parent Association on the matter.

The following were elected to draw up the annual report:—Messrs. Norman, Marks and the Hon. Secretary.

Provincial Road Committee Member Mr. Bernard Strachan.

As the present Chairman was unable to be present at the next general meeting, Mr. NORMAN proposed, and Mr. FOWLER seconded that Mr. Strachan take the chair.—Carried.

A vote of thanks was passed unanimously for all that Mr. Bannerman had done for the Association during his occupation of the chair and as Hon. Secretary in the past.

SHORTAGE OF RICE ON RAILWAY.

Mr. ROBINSON stated that on three lots of rice despatched to him during the previous month the shortage was as follows:—

No. 1	300 Bushels	...	25 short
No. 2	400 "	...	47½ "
No. 3	300 "	...	22½ "
<hr/>		<hr/>	
	1,000 Bushels		95 short

In all 95 bushels short on 1,000 bushels despatched. This was paid for by the Chetty who despatched the rice, and doubtless his prices were increased in the first place to make allowances for this pilfering on the railway.

Mr. ROBINSON asked for suggestions to prevent this great

shortage. After discussion it was resolved that the matter be left for the present.

A vote of thanks to the chair concluded the meeting.

BERNARD STRACHAN,

Hon. Secretary, P.P.A.

Cannavarella, Namunukulla, November 24th.

PUSSELLAWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

DISCUSSION ON THE TEA GIFT.

Restriction of Rice Issues Urged.

The Pussellawa Planters' Association met on Saturday (14th) at the Club Pavilion, Gampola, Mr. H. M. Picken presiding. There were present: Messrs. G. P. Gaddum, D. Westland, H. Hitchcock, W. W. Stevens, O. S. Agar, H. J. G. Marley, Carlton Jones, Maxwell Johnstone, E. D. Beresford Bruce, M. V. Chapham, C. A. Grant, J. D. Mendis, R. S. Northway, Geo. E. Benzie, T. A. Griffiths, E. Waddilove, F. Templer, R. S. Hall (visitor) and P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary). A Committee meeting was held first.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Mr. PICKEN introduced the subject of the Gampola suspension bridge, discussed at last meeting held at Pussellawa and invited their attention to Government's reply:—

"Sir,—I have the honour in reply to your letter to inform you that it is proposed to utilise the existing piers of Gampola bridge for the new structure, but the details of erection have not yet been arranged."—(Signed) G. WADDELL, for T. H. CHAPMAN, D.P.W.

The mode of transport of goods, which was of vital importance to them, during the construction of the new bridge, was not disclosed therein. Therefore he proposed that they should ask Government what precisely was their intention, inasmuch as a tramway or any other temporary structure would not permit of the transport of the enormous amount of traffic daily with such regularity and expedition as the management of estates required.

Mr. WESTLAND said strong pressure should be brought to bear upon Government, not only to elicit what they proposed to do to facilitate the regular transport of goods, but also to expedite matters regarding its construction, as considerable delay had already occurred. The work should be taken in hand forthwith.

Mr. PICKEN said they must be informed beforehand of what Government proposed to do during erection of the new structure.

Mr. WESTLAND said there must be no interruption of traffic at all during the construction.

Mr. NORTHWAY intimated that it was reported some time back that the old piers had served their purpose and were now in a dangerous condition.

It was agreed to write to Government soliciting information.

ROAD GRANTS.

Mr. GADDUM proposed: That the Honorary Secretary do approach Government to increase the grants to the Gampola-Bukande and Bukande-Dambalagalla roads to Rs. 200 and Rs. 75, respectively.

In support, he said these roads were constantly used by Hundreds of Sinhalese people daily and that the rate of pay for working on these roads had increased from 30 to 45 cents per diem.

Mr. HITCHCOCK seconded.—Carried.

ROADS.

Mr. BENZIE requested the Honorary Secretary to write to the District Engineer for information as to what had been done with the money subscribed in 1913, in connection with the Ulapane-Riverside grant-in-aid road as the work done was not apparent. The Provincial Engineer had been changed several times, so it was better to write to the District Engineer.—Agreed.

Mr. WALKER said the bridge near the 8th mile-stone on the road between Gampola and Peradeniya was very dangerous: the view on either side was obstructed by trees and temporary tenements. Its condition was brought to the notice of the authorities about a year ago but the obstructions had not yet been removed.

Mr. AGAR said the Ambegamuwa road from the four cross-roads at Gampola to the Railway premises was in urgent need of repairs.

Mr. WESTLAND said the road from Kirapone to the Sinapitiya caddies required repair, besides the level-crossing there was in a disgraceful condition. The Gampola-Ulapane road should be attended to without delay as it had not been properly metalled.

Mr. WALKER said the Peradeniya Railway crossing needed repairs, there being a depth of several inches on either side of the rails, and the timber also required repairs. At the crossing nearest Nawalapitiya on Ulapane side a warning notice was necessary, as the crossing cannot be seen.

Mr. WESTLAND said that the attention of the Automobile Club should be drawn to it.

It was proposed by Mr. P. P. C. WALKER and seconded by Mr. H. J. G. MARLEY:—That the attention of the District Engineer be drawn to these places.

LOCAL BOARD REPRESENTATION.

Mr. AGAR said he had hardly anything to add to what he mentioned in Committee. The representation, the importance of which was so obvious, should enlist their entire support. The town's prosperity depended, directly and indirectly, on the planting industry, so it was only fair their interests should be represented on the Local Board—the working of which left much to be desired. He asked them to imagine the condition of the town if the neighbouring plantations were not existing. He moved:—

That Government be requested to nominate a repre-

sentative of the Pussellawa Planters' Association on the Local Board of Gampola.

Mr. GADDUM, seconding, said the resolution met with his hearty approval. It was essential their interests should be represented, considering that the planting industry was responsible, directly and indirectly, for the entire business carried on in the town. If it were required let the Ordinance be altered to permit nomination. They must continue to agitate till nomination was secured.

Mr. WESTLAND said there were representatives on Nawalapitiya and Hatton Boards.

Mr. MENDIS said Government did nominate District Medical Officers and Engineers. Planters had a very poor chance of being elected therefore, nomination was desirable.

Mr. AGAR's resolution was unanimously carried.

GAMPOLA HOSPITAL.

Mr. PICKEN said the question of a suitable site had apparently created a dead-lock, so he suggested that Government be asked what was proposed; it was an acknowledged fact that the hospital got submerged almost every year two or three times during the rains, and that this work should be undertaken—even if other works had to be temporarily abandoned owing to the war.—Agreed.

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

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JANUARY, 1915.

[No 11



RETRENCHMENT.

The statement of H. E. the Governor at the meeting of the Legislative Council on December 18th which had been awaited with the greatest interest by all creeds and nationalities in Ceylon, when boiled down means a shortage of twenty three million rupees in revenue calculated on the receipts during August, September and October of the past year.

It must not be forgotten that during that period the "Emden" was at large and that a considerable amount of shipping was held up in consequence, and added to this was the commandeering of ships by the British Government for transport purposes. These are two important factors which must have had a marked effect on lessening the imports into Ceylon.

His Excellency no doubt had this in mind when he said "Retrenchment is a painful necessity, and any increase in our income will *pro tanto* remove such necessity and enable Government to cancel retrenchment. It all turns on actual receipts of revenue." It is gratifying to know that should our revenue increase our expenditure will be raised. With the command of the seas which our Navy has gained there can be no reason why trade should not return to very near the normal line. A certain amount of retrenchment is being practised throughout the planting industries of Ceylon no doubt, but this is mainly in delaying the erection of new buildings and improvements for the time being—a wise precaution, but one that should not materially affect our imports. We therefore hope to see in the near future retrenchment on the part of Government confined to similar economies so that in future years an abnormal expenditure will not be required to remedy defects caused by too rigid a use of the blue pencil during the war.

The concluding paragraph of His Excellency's statement will come as a relief to those who have been and still

are anxious to see Ceylon take her place with other Colonies and bear a portion of the burden of the Mother Country.

It is obvious that without the necessary money to back it up a vote is but a very hollow expression of loyalty. We are asked not to borrow from England at present, so we must await a more opportune moment to do so, but when that moment arrives we sincerely hope that Ceylon will do her share, and until then we must be patient and comfort ourselves with the thought that possibly other Colonies who have done their share *on paper* have perhaps as yet been unable to make good *in cash*.

WHERE THE CEYLON CONTINGENT IS ENCAMPED.

From the letter of a member it would appear that the C.P.R.C. Expeditionary Contingent is stationed at Abbassieh in Egypt. Abbassieh is situated about three miles from Cairo and is reached either by a good road or by electric tramway. There are some fine barracks at Abbassieh where the permanent British cavalry and artillery are usually quartered, and close by is the parade ground where the annual King's Birthday Review is generally held. But all around for miles the country is flat and sandy, where doubtless now large forces of imperial soldiers are encamped. Within easy walking distance is the Khedive's suburban palace of Konbbeh, and a fine avenue of trees lines a pleasant driving road to Zeitun, a popular English residential suburb.

Quite close to Abbassieh a new suburb—named Heliopolis—has in recent years been established, and it was here that the first Flying Exhibition was given. The citadel occupied by British troops, can be reached easily by electric tram from Abbassieh, while the same means of cheap locomotion exists to the Pyramids and Sphinx about 12 miles away, passing the Kasr-en-Nil Barracks en route. If time is available ample opportunities for sport will be found at the Khedivial Sporting Club at Ghesireh, just

across the river,—which encloses in its spacious grounds a fine racecourse, three separate polo grounds, many Asphalte tennis courts, grass croquet lawns, etc.

Of the three British military quarters at Cairo—Kasren-Nil, the citadel and Abbassieh, the contingent is certainly stationed at the healthiest.

In the three months, December, January and February, while the days are invariably warm and sunny, the nights are very cold, and the drop in temperature at sundown is very marked. From March the days and nights get much warmer, and the thermometer will touch about 100 degrees (shade maximum) for weeks until the Nile flood reaches Cairo in August inundating the surrounding country and causing the morning mists which cool the air. Rain is rare—probably half a dozen showers in the year, and the mosquitoes are awful. Should the contingent be in Egypt in April and May, it may experience a sandstorm or Khamseen, an Arabic word meaning 50, so called because these storms are supposed to blow in a period of fifty days. Apukka Khamseen is extremely disagreeable. It will blow for three or four days and nights without cessation, the temperature remaining at over 100 degrees, and the sun being completely eclipsed. In the open desert either the force of the wind or the accumulation of driven sand will often cause a tent to collapse, and in Cairo the closing of doors, windows and shutters will fail to prevent sand being blown into the rooms.

With a view to economy of space and also to the deletion of much that is not of great general interest we have decided to condense both the reports of District Planters' Association Meetings and the Report of the Ceylon Labour Commissioner. In future the District Planters' Association Reports will be reduced to a concise record of the business done with only such speeches and letters as are necessary for their elucidation. As regards the Ceylon Labour Commissioner's Report we propose making out and publishing Quarterly the "Comparative Statement showing the number of coolies despatched from each Agency during 1912, 1913, and 1914," instead of monthly as at present, while the "Monthly Reports on recruiting prospects" will be condensed so as to show at a glance where prospects are good, bad or indifferent with as brief notes as are possible of any particular reason for the existing state of affairs.

* * *

Minutes of the Kandy Committee Meetings and the Labour Commissioner's monthly review, recommendations, etc., etc., will be published in full as hereto.

As will be seen from the Minutes published in this issue some matter of more than usual interest came up at the Committee Meeting of December 11th. The one that provoked most comment was the letter from the P.C.M.O., stating that owing to the necessity for retrenchment coolies would no longer be detained in Hospital during convales-

cense, but if necessary would actually have to be carried away from Hospital. Considering the fact that 85 per cent. of the cost of the Civil Medical Department is paid for by an export tax on Estate produce—with the notable exception of coconuts—this action was rather astounding, especially in view of the fact that Government have appointed a Commission to enquire into the treatment of coolies on Estates in the Province of Sabaragamuwa. The matter was however left in the hands of the Medical Wants Committee, with the satisfactory result that now we have a further letter from the P.C.M.O. to say that all that was intended was that Superintendents should have six days' notice of the intended discharge of a patient and that no other change was contemplated.

We hope, now that correspondents can write to the "Planting Gazette" over a *nom de plume*, that Planters will make greater use of our correspondence columns on subjects of planting interest. We have always held the opinion that there are many occasions on which a correspondent cannot, for many and obvious reasons, write over his own name though his communication may be of great interest and utility. All letters, of course, must be authenticated in the usual manner and their acceptance or refusal will be at the discretion of the Editor.

We have hitherto refrained from voicing in any way the discontent at the treatment recorded to the members of the two Planting Volunteer Corps—more particularly the C.P.R.C.—as nothing definite had come before the Planters' Association nor had Government made any official statement on the subject. It was decided that the Hon. the Rural Member should be asked to put a question in Council, but unfortunately his question—he did not move for papers and so was unable to make any comment referred only to the future, and naturally no explanation was offered by Government as to why—leaving aside the Contingent—the very existence of this Corps had been practically ignored. We wonder whether the assurance given that opportunity for training will be afforded the Corps in February next will allay the very strong feeling which exists.

Much as we dislike any appearance of trying to divert a single Rupee from any of the other funds that are being so generously supported we appeal to more contributors to the Day's Pay Fund to allocate the subscriptions to the Ceylon Tea Gift. Both are, anyhow at present, essentially Planters' Funds, and there is the advantage that Planters can support both simultaneously. It is by no means the fault of the Planters' Association of Ceylon that we have to bear practically the whole of the burden, but as it has been thrust upon us we must leave no stone unturned to achieve success. We propose having a concert on behalf of the Fund in February and other attractions in Kandy of which due notice will be given as soon as details have been settled.

CONCERNING HOSPITALS.

We congratulate the District Associations of Ambegamuwa, Dolosbage and Kotmale on the nearing realisation of their long-sustained efforts—the completion of the new wards of the Nawalapitiya Hospital. Chapter and verse are not beside us as we write, but much water must have flowed down the Mahaweliganga since these districts first started agitating; and after their initial victory over the P. C. M. O. the energy expended in stirring the Public Works Department into action must have been sufficient to raise many hospitals many feet into the air. That three such districts should be served by the one Hospital is in itself more parsimonious than wise, more dangerous than parsimonious; but when that hospital is altogether insufficient to accommodate the needs of the districts, when the overflow patients are herded day after day in scratch beds and many on no beds at all, we should have thought that a whole-minded Medical Department would have been the first to recognise a want, the first to remedy it.

Such, however, is not the case. It is only after much bullying that the heads of certain Departments will separate themselves from the *honour* of writing to us and consent to do something. By sheer determination the planters of the above districts have gained the fulfilment of their desires; but Nawalapitiya is not the only seat of trouble. Referring to the December issue of the "Planting Gazette," we find two other Associations crying for help. From far-off Passara comes the lament that coolies are being refused admission to the Lunugalla Hospital because the new Buildings, long since promised, are still a long way from completion. From Pussellawa we learn that the authorities are still haggling over the site of the new Gampola Hospital, whilst the patients in the old building are liable to be flooded out three times a year. We can only advise these Associations in the words of a former Governor to agitate, agitate, and again agitate: and when things look blackest—go on agitating. Planting enterprise alone has raised the new wards at Nawalapitiya. On the new nearing day of his retirement, the present P.C.M.O., will be able to point to few or no structural improvements in the planting districts which have been initiated and put through by himself. Perhaps for this reason he does not love the Planting Community.

COLOMBO NOTES.

The Produce Markets.

Considering the general position in the Empire, the state of affairs locally, at present, does not give much cause for anxiety: In fact, business, with natural restrictions at such times, has run with remarkable smoothness.

Tea has held its own and even more so, as the market has shown a progressive activity from the last sale of November, culminating on the 15th December, the last of the

year, and that in face of continued uninteresting weathery quality and increasing quantities. The feature of the rise was competition for leaf grades, principally Pekoes and Souchongs. The first sale of 1915 will take place on Tuesday, the 5th January.

Increased supplies of Cocoa early in the month woke this market into some activity, and demand has remained strong throughout. Prices ranged during the month from Rs. 35 to Rs. 46 for No. 1; Rs. 28 to Rs. 43 for No. 2; and black from Rs. 6 to Rs. 20. The crop however has not turned out to be up to what was expected in quality.

The Rubber Market has fluctuated. Low grades opened weak with little demand, but brisk competition, (mostly on Russian account), induced a decided advance, and the market closed very firm. Standard Crepe rose from Rs. 1.37 to Rs. 1.45, but declined to Rs. 1.35. Competition for Smoked Sheet produced an upward tendency from the first and prices rose from Rs. 1.42 to Rs. 1.50, closing strong and firm. Little business has been effected since the last sale of the year on the 18th instant. The first sale of the new year will take place on the 8th January.

In Coffee, offerings were very small and little if any business was done here. Some small purchases are reported on estates at Rs. 55 per cwt. probably bought for private purposes.

Quotations for Green Cardamoms early in the month stood at 95 cents: demand pushed the best up to Rs. 1.16 per pound finally, the market closed with a depressed tone. Very small quantities of bleached were available, but there was practically no inquiry.

The average quantity of Copra has been offered, but with a fluctuating market prices have ranged from Rs. 77 per candy down to Rs. 74. Forward business for 1915 is reported at Rs. 80, and a few contracts have passed at this rate.

During the month under review, very little business has passed in Coconut oil, due, not to want of demand, but to the inability of millers to provide for the requirements of the trade. The price advanced from Rs. 580 in November to Rs. 610, the highest price reached since January last, when Rs. 627½ was paid. This rapid advance had a somewhat quieting effect on the market, and buyers were compelled to retire to some extent till a more favourable opportunity should occur. The new method of the working of Freudenberg and Co.'s mills will doubtless alter the course of business. The controllers, under instructions from the Committee appointed by the Government, are now only prepared to mill oil under conditions that differ entirely from those which have obtained in the past: the

success or otherwise of this policy will reveal itself in the course of a month or two.

* * *

Freight for the United Kingdom has been plentiful, and owing to the very large quantity of Copra offering for the U.K., together with fairly large requirements for Coconut oil, several steamers have been able to load full cargoes here, and it is gratifying to note that the want of space that has manifested itself since the beginning of the War, has now been righted, and freights for all ports to which our merchandise can be shipped, may now be considered normal.

* * *

The market for plumbago has remained inactive during the month.

The Share Market.

On the declaration of War in August last there came a complete cessation of dealings in shares both locally and with London. In sympathy with the stoppage for a time of all sales of local produce, investors as well as speculators ceased to do business with the result that the Brokers Association decided in the meantime to issue no more share lists.

Although sales of Tea and Rubber were shortly resumed buyers of shares continued to be extremely chary of purchasing till the last six weeks when enquiries have increased steadily. The volume of actual business resulting has however been small as it has been a pleasing feature that in no instance has there been any desire to rush shares on the market at a sacrifice.

In fact it has been most noticeable of late that stock in anything like large lines is extremely difficult to obtain which points to the facts that our financial magnates consider that tea and rubber as necessities of life will not be unduly depressed by the war and that the stability of the Ceylon investing public is at the moment better through the absence of weak holders who have been gradually shaken out during the past three years.

If there has been any particular desire to sell the same it seems to have come from London and we believe in one instance the lucky buyer of a line of shares which he secured at a low rate was able in a day or two to turn over at a handsome profit.

On the other hand we read that Bears of certain sterling shares sold to London have been obliged to close their commitments at a higher rate than one would have thought reasonable with such a quiet market.

At the moment of writing buyers appear desirous of picking up cheap stock but sellers are few and not as a rule prepared to accept prices much lower than those ruling before the outbreak of war, hence the scarcity of transactions.

CEYLON TEA GIFT.

STATEMENT OF TEA RECEIVED BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Name of Sender.	Nett Weight lbs.	Name of Sender.	Nett Weight lbs.
Stamford Hill	360	Karandupona	2,997
Devon	240	Joseph Malcolmson,	
Preston	825	Clodagh	1,000
Dalhousie	800	Maskeliya	850
Comar & Betworth	280	Craighead	1,000
C. E. Wedd,		Rookwood	860
Maskeliya	500	Galkandawatte	1,000
Alpitakande	525	Ambawella	450
Blarneywatte	250	Lucky Land	300
Doonhinda	350	R. R. Jacques, Maturata	
Alfred Scovell	510	Group	255
Tunisgalla	250	H. A. Grigg	225
St. Aubins	700	W. J. R. Hamilton	90
Waragalande	1,000	H. A. Grigg and W. J.	
Avisawella	1,050	R. Hamilton	225
Ferriby	500	Heirs of the late Rev.	
Ambalawa	400	T. N. Grigg	180
Kudaganga	180	Faithlie	500
Hoolankande	1,100	Arratenne	270
Kituldeniya	1,001	A. C. W. Ferguson,	
Kanapediwatte	720	Park	92
Coreen	400	E. H. Etches, Forbes	50
Ottery	1,000	Alibon	720
Agra Oya	500	Kanampella	350
C. A. Evans	50	Eildon Hall Tea and	
Kelani	1,001	Rubber Co., Ltd.	2,250
Wallawe.—F. S.		T. B. Coombe	25
Hill, 625 lbs., H. M.		Lynford	240
Seel, 375 lbs., G. M.		C. L. Bliss	93
Cheyne, 100 lbs.	1,100	Cabarangalla	200
Mt. Temple	511	Wavahena	500
Blinkbonne	540	E. Massy	170
Deensland	340	Tonacombe	600
Tamaravelly	170	Uvakellie	500
F. R. Bissett	170	The Neuchatel Estates,	
New Preston	400	Ltd.	3,000
Ritnageria	720	The Ceylon Estates	
M. F. Bell	100	Investment Associa-	
Oakwell	1,012	tion	1,500
Palmerston	704	The Meall Mor (Cey-	
Mossville	400	lon) Estate Ltd.	1,000
Queensland	700	The Horawella Kalu-	
Oolowarre	510	tara) Rubber Co.,	
G. W. Hunter Blair		Ltd.,	500
Hoolankande	440	Kinnersley (Kalutara)	
J. J. Napier Madul-		Rubber Co., Ltd.	500
kelle	160	The Panana (Kegalle)	
H. A. MacLaren	75	Rubber Co. Ltd.	500
H. A. F. MacLaren		Halagashena Estate Co.,	
Gikiyanakande	75	Ltd.	845
Weihena	50	The Ullawater Rubber	
A. D. Sly	50	Co., of Ceylon, Ltd.	300
Kinnellan	480	The Lassahena (Rub-	
Bellongalla	480	ber) Co., Ltd.	800
Girindi Ella	700	Kelliewatte	500
Farnham	240	Robgill	240
Bambragalla	100	Heatherley	1,000
J. R. Barkley	255	E. C. Scott	100
Kinloch	800	Bon Accord	180
Fairlawn	600	Igalkande	200
Hew Kennedy	500	Mrs. Margaret Payne	65
Sirikandura	500	Tudugalla	504
Richmond	210	Macaldeniya	500
Great Western	500	Lower Lyegrove	100
Geoffrey Kenion	80	Mahatenne	300
Kottogodde	510	Ravenscraig	94
Herbert J. Bell	800	J. W. Bennett	12
G. B. de Mowbray	100	Mrs. Ayscough	2

Name of Sender.	Nett Weight lbs.	Name of Sender.	Nett Weight lbs.	Rs. cts.	Name of Sender.	Net Weight lbs.	Rs. cts.
Blair Athol ...	170	J. Attapattu ...	25	E. Coates & Co. ...	200 00	S. B. Bell ...	50 00
St. Heliers ...	625	Pingarawa ...	500	C. S. Anthony & Co. ...	100 00	G. B. Stuart ...	15 00
Col. C. A. Grosvenor ...	504	Verellapabana ...	500	J. L. Tancook ...	150 00	Mr. & Mrs. Clapham ...	50 00
and W. M. R. Elwes ...	300	W. C. Hawkes ...	150	N. D. Evans ...	50 00	M. H. Reeves ...	100 00
Mocha ...	300	Geo. Brown ...	100	The Udabage Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd., ...	250 00	E. G. B. Box ...	100 00
Philip H. Unwin ...	50	Sirnewesa ...	250	The Sittawaka Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd., ...	250 00	E. C. Dawson ...	25 00
Glentilt ...	300	E. Maberley Byrde ...	85	Mrs. F. Gibson ...	50 00	Duncan Scott ...	20 00
Westward Ho ...	500	Ormidale ...	1,500	Planters' Association of Ceylon ...	1,000 00	M. B. Blount ...	25 00
Hatals ...	180	Strathspey ...	500	Castlereagh Tea Co., of Ceylon Ltd., ...	300 00	A. M. MacNeill ...	50 00
Hyndford ...	360	Kew ...	1,000	E. G. Simpson ...	259 88	W. Russell Scott ...	50 00
St. Catharines ...	100	Kearley Tonge, Ltd. ...	100	A. Anson ...	147 50	R. G. Rolfe Rogers ...	25 00
Queenstown ...	500	W. S. King ...	100	The Selinsing Rubber Co., Ltd., ...	250 00	Mrs. Rolfe Rogers ...	50 00
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Westland ...	312	Taldus Estate ...	300	Kandyan Hills Co., Ltd., ...	250 00	Hon. Secretary, Sabaragamuwa P. A. ...	41 00
Palm Garden ...	100	Honiton Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	910	The Donnybrook Tea Co., ...	250 00	L. B. Green ...	15 00
Galkadua ...	100	Awliscombe ...	80	Hunuwella (Pelmadulla) Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	250 00	C. S. Wait ...	10 00
Kudaganga Rubber Co. of Ceylon, Ltd. ...	2,000	Taprobane ...	400	Mrs. Blanche Woods ...	80 00	C. F. S. Shaw ...	—
Gordon Fraser & Co. Ltd. ...	1,500	Blairavon ...	425	R. K. Clarke ...	30 00	A. Jemmett ...	—
Mantenne Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	1,000	Penylan ...	85	The Avington Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd., ...	250 00	Gordon Fraser & Co., Ltd. ...	8 798 88
Udapolla Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	1,000	Dotala ...	85	L. O. Gilliat ...	25 00	H. F. Laycock ...	100 00
Kalutara Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	1,000	K. V. Tea Association, Ltd. ...	1,200	E. H. B. Norish ...	10 00	E. D. Constant ...	10 00
Gallawatte Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	1,000	Labugama (K. V. Ceylon) Rubber & Tea Co., Ltd. ...	525	A. G. Baynham ...	15 00	R. K. Bowie ...	25 00
Kelani Valley Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	1,000	Dehiowita ...	250	W. E. Sparling ...	50 00	Mrs. M. A. Olney ...	25 00
Moneragalla Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	1,500	Subscribed by the Colombo Town Guard ...	6,000	Rev. A. LeFeuvre ...	10 00	E. G. A. Palmer (balance at the disposal of the Madulsima Section of the C. P. R. C.) ...	2 76
Sittagama Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	750	Roeberry Tea Co. of Ceylon, Ltd. ...	8,250	C. J. Owen ...	100 00	A. L. Baines ...	200 00
Vogan ...	2,078	D. C. Senanayake Lanka Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	990	Gordon Windus ...	50 00	Hugh M. Gordon ...	20 00
W. N. Tisdall ...	75	Ingestre ...	504	E. G. A. Palmer ...	2 00	John Loudon ...	68 50
H. B. Phillips ...	90	Fairfield ...	100	D. T. Miller ...	50 00	G. F. Cornish ...	20 00
W. Fraser ...	90	P. R. Shand ...	85	H. G. Cornish ...	25 00	John B. Coles ...	100 00
C. M. Young ...	90	Norton Estate ...	249	Digowa ...	250 00	Callander Estate ...	200 00
A. S. Berwick ...	90	St. Andrews ...	500	Rev. and Mrs. A. LeFeuvre ...	15 00	J. Graeme Sinclair ...	100 00
C. S. Burns ...	90	Dayanilla ...	400	C. D. Sparkes ...	15 00	H. Wilkinson ...	25 00
A. P. Waldoock ...	90	Waitalawa ...	500	Kellow & Co. ...	15 00	N. H. Dendy ...	10 00
H. M. Waldoock ...	90	Maturata Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	1,001	H. C. Lankester ...	75 00	Stanley Howard ...	25 00
G. H. Elliott ...	90	Huluganga ...	100	E. P. Andrews ...	25 00	J. E. B. Baillie Hamilton ...	80 00
Mrs. A. S. Berwick ...	90	John Quayle ...	85	H. E. Walker ...	25 00	L. E. Mercer ...	15 00
E. C. MacIntyre ...	90	Blairlmond ...	500	Garnawella ...	400 00	P. Healing ...	50 00
L. O. Leefe ...	90	Longville ...	300	E. K. Cave Brown ...	15 00	S. E. James ...	25 00
Mrs. A. P. Waldoock ...	90	A. N. Paine ...	100	John Still ...	100 00	M. M. McLeod ...	20 00
S. Oxten Jones ...	90	Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore ...	40	E. V. Long ...	50 00	Mrs. B. C. Bonner ...	155 62
Ryan Estates of Ceylon, Ltd. ...	2,500	G. H. F. Lushington ...	100	A. Glennie ...	50 00	Chas. Gibbon ...	85 00
A. C. W. Ferguson, Park ...	172	E. Winter ...	50	E. Hill Hughes ...	50 00	W. H. Fitz Patrick ...	15 00
D. C. Jayawardene, Govendy ...	25	M. B. Panabokke ...	100	A. J. Volum ...	25 00	Matale Valley Cocoa & Rubber Company, Ltd., ...	250 00
J. B. Sidgwick, Sheen North Western Rubber Co., Ltd. ...	160	W. J. de Silva ...	10	A. L. Sinclair ...	25 00	Carr Hamond ...	400 00
European and Native Staff and Labour Force Pitakande Group ...	1,000	J. G. Napier ...	160	C. E. Emerson ...	25 00	United Planters' Company of Ceylon, Ltd. ...	1,500 00
and the following lots which we have been unable to identify:—		Ederapolla Tea Co., of Ceylon, Ltd. ...	700	C. B. Coleman ...	30 00	Gerald Abbott ...	150 00
1 chest ...	85	Ardross ...	400	Hinguralla ...	200 00	Ceylon Planters' One Day's Pay Fund, November collections ...	1,482 81
2 chests ...	100			A. R. T. Gibbon ...	25 00	M. B. Blount ...	50 00
9 " ...	700			Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot ...	100 00	H. R. Freeman ...	50 00
2 " ...	164			R. Ashby ...	150 00	E. F. Grigson ...	20 00
10 " ...	670			J. McTier ...	25 00		
8 " ...	210			S. P. Blackmore ...	250 00		
6 " ...	498			A. M. Meysa Lebbe ...	10 00		
				A. Ratwatte ...	20 00		
				S. Johnstone ...	50 00		
				G. R. Shillitoe ...	15 00		
				L. W. C. Schrader ...	30 00		
				Kenneth L. Gordon ...	25 00		

No. 2 List.

Name of Sender.	Nett Weight lbs.	Name of Sender.	Net Weight lbs.
Collected by Ceylon Labour Commissioner ...	172 00	T. H. Williams, Esq., Bramley, Kandapolla ...	200
R. P. Gorton ...	25 00		
Maha Rajah Estate ...	25 00		
R. I. Hughes ...	45 00		

Rs. ... 16,460 65

Name of Sender.	Nett Weight lbs.	Name of Sender.	Nett Weight lbs.
St. James Estate ...	400 X	Old Haloya, 2 cases ...	180
Craigmore Estate ...	56	Marakona, 7 cases ...	500
Hyndford Estate ...	860	Blairlound, 4 cases ...	400
Silvaland Estate ...	560	Ferham, 7 cases ...	600
Otter Estate ...	210	Dimbulla Valley	
Kincora Estate ...	300	Ceylon Tea Co.,	
Baddegama Estate ...	1,320	18 cases ...	1,800
Ederapolla Estate ...	700	Dimbulla Valley	
Ardross Estate ...	400	Ceylon Tea Co.,	
Ettapolla Estate ...	100	5 cases ...	475
Wattagoda Estate ...	170	Wattamulla, 3 cases ...	240
Melton Estate ...	200	C. W. Newton, Esq.,	
G. R. Bacot, Esq., ...	90	2 cases ...	100
Logie Estate ...	400	John Quayle, Esq.,	
Hunugala Estate ...	1,500	2 cases ...	115
R. J. Austin, Esq., ...	200	"H. G. M.," 8	
Capt. W. B. Bennet ...	500	cases ...	600
Kirklees Estate ...	510	Kandahena, 3 cases ...	200
Kahelwatte Estate ...	150	Total ...	17,632
W. J. Sandys		Previously ...	105,931
Thomas, Esq., ...	50	Previously uninden-	
S. H. Wrench, Esq., ...	50	tified contribu-	
Stockholm Estate ...	300	tions ...	2,677
Mirishena (Kalutara)		Total ...	126,240
Rubber Co. ...	1,470		
Staff on Neuchatel			
Group ...	500		

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

List No. 2.

Rs. cts.	Deduct.—Freight on
A. P. Sandbach, Esq., 50 00	1st Shipment Rs.
B. K. Clark (2nd sub.) 80 00	2,280 68
C. L. Vizard, Esq. 100 00	Deduct.—Freight on
E. Necollier, Esq. 50 00	2nd Shipment Rs.
V. A. Julius, Esq. 50 00	1,063 44
Total 280 00	3,344 12
Previously 16,460 65	
Total collected 16,740 65	

Balance in Bank 13,396 ... 53

HEW KENNEDY,

Chairman and Acting Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

A REVIEW OF THE WAR.

PART I.

The great war that is now being waged, has involved so many nations, the battlegrounds in Europe are so extensive in area and in the rest of the world, so scattered in sea and land, that it is difficult to connect the many engagements into a definite line of action, and to sum up what progress or otherwise they have brought to the opposing camps. It is intended in this "Gazette" to write a monthly review, the exceptional length of this first instalment must be excused as it has to cover a period of five months.

It may be desirable to commence with a brief account of the immediate origin of the war.

The province of Bosnia of which Serajevo is the capital belonged to Turkey, but the population being mostly Serb, was in continual insurrection against Moslem rule, and finally Austria undertook the administration of the province, pledging her word under the Treaty of Berlin in 1878 that her occupation should not detract from the Sovereign rights of the Sultan. In 1908, however, Austria broke her pledge

by formally annexing the country, thereby embittering Servian feeling against her. On 28th June of this year, the heir to the Austrian throne visited the province, and while in Serajevo, both he and his wife were assassinated. Austrian opinion which had always accused Serbia of encouraging revolutionary feelings against the Serbs in Bosnia, at once laid the responsibility of the crime on the Servian Government, and on 23rd July Austria presented an Ultimatum to Serbia demanding, in 48 hours, submission to terms which no state could accept without relinquishing its independence. The European chancelleries, foreseeing the immediate danger of war, led by England, at once endeavoured to get the time limit removed so as to allow opportunity for mediation, and Serbia under Russian advice, went further than might have been expected in giving way to the Austrian demands. But Austria, stiffened and encouraged by the attitude and secret counsels of Germany, declined to allow mediation, and on 26th July the first shots were fired and a European conflagration became inevitable. Mobilisation in Austria was followed by mobilisation in Russia, which in turn caused Germany to mobilise, and then France. Except for Italy which stood out as it considered the war offensive on the part of the other members of the Triple Alliance, and therefore not calling for her intervention, the members of the Triple and Dual Alliances, were now grouped into hostile camps. The question that was of supreme importance on both sides was—Would England remain neutral or which side would she join?

The original cause of the quarrel was not one for which England would go to war, but conditions vital to British interests subsequently arose. Following the convention of 1906 with France and the "Rapprochement" of the English and French peoples, there had been important modifications in the dispositions of the two navies. While we had always had a powerful fleet in the Mediterranean as a counterpoise to the French, at that period the margin of our superiority in the North Sea was gradually diminishing. We now transferred much of our naval power from the Mediterranean to the North Atlantic, while France increased her naval power in the Middle Sea at the expense of her Atlantic fleet. In short a kind of mutual arrangement was made by which France looked after the Mediterranean while we looked after the Atlantic in joint interests. Accordingly if England had remained neutral in the present quarrel (as Germany much desired), the German Fleet could have ravaged the unprotected Atlantic coasts of France,—in fact France would have been very much at the mercy of the Kaiser. Now it is obviously not in our interests to passively watch France being crushed, and perhaps see Germany extend her territory across Northern France to the Channel. We therefore assured France that we would not allow the German fleet to attack her coasts.

A further question arose. It became clear that Germany intended violating the neutrality of Belgium, of whose independence she was with England and other powers, guarantor. We could not then allow Belgian neutrality to be violated with impunity, nor could we with equanimity

regard the prospect of Germany occupying for an indefinite time the harbours and coasts of Belgium, so convenient and near for an attack on our own coasts. We therefore demanded an immediate guarantee from Germany that she would not violate Belgian territory, and our demand being ignored except by the actual commission of an act of violation, we formally joined France, Russia, Belgium and Serbia against Germany and Austro-Hungary. Thus within only ten days of the original ultimatum to Serbia, seven of the powers of Europe were involved in war.

It would be well to set out the military and naval positions of the belligerent powers at the beginning of the struggle. The usual summer mobilisation of the British fleet took place in July, so that when the European war clouds began to gather, our fleet happened already to be mobilised. It was never demobilised. It proceeded under sealed orders to fulfil its mission, with the result that the German High Sea's fleet has been bottled up in Kiel ever since. It is not difficult to imagine the damage that could have resulted to our commerce and shipping, and possibly our coasts, if units of the German fleet had been allowed in the beginning to step through into the main ocean. We know how difficult it has been to locate the "Emden" in our Eastern waters. We know it was announced in Parliament sometime ago, that no less than 70 allied cruisers have been hunting the Atlantic Ocean alone for a single stray German cruiser, the "Karlsruhe," which still remains uncaught.

Germany had a squadron at her colony in China, but prior to the siege by Japan, who joined the Allies on 20th August this squadron dispersed—two boats, the "Emden" and "Königsberg" to harry British commerce in Eastern Seas, and a modern squadron of seven boats to the Pacific, sheltering at need in the friendly ports of Chile. Two German men-of-war in the Mediterranean sought refuge in Turkish harbours, while the French and British Mediterranean fleets effectively bottled up the Austrian fleet in the Adriatic. Then from the first the Allies' naval dispositions were so successful that the enemy trade has ceased, while the Allies' merchantmen sail the seas with the same freedom as in the time of peace.

The following figures will show the naval strength of the two sides:—

	MEN.	DREADNOUGHTS.	PRE-DREADNOUGHTS.	CRUISERS.	DESTROYERS.	TORPEDO BOATS.	SUBMARINES.	BIG NAVAL GUNS.	TONS.
England	155,000	31	40	108	167	49	75	347	
France	66,999	4	18	80	84	135	64	123	
Russia	60,000	—	7	17	91	14	30	86	
Allies									
Total	281,000	35	65	155	342	198	169	556	3,168,000
Germany	80,000	16	20	52	130	47	21	143	
Austria	20,000	8	6	13	18	39	6	73	
Enemy									
Total	100,000	19	26	65	148	86	27	216	1,150,000

In armies the position is as follows, the figures being those generally taken as the war footing, and which have been, or there is reason to believe have been, mobilized:—

Great Britain, Dominions and			
India	2,500,000	Germany	5,000,000
France	4,000,000	Austria	2,500,000
Russia	6,000,000		
Servia	450,000		
Belgium	400,000		
Montenegro	250,000		
Total	13,600,000	Total	7,500,000

If we also count those in training in our colonies and those mobilised in neutral countries, there must be about 23,000,000 men under arms all over the world. The first hostilities in Europe broke out at Belgrade, but events in this theatre of war have become quite obscured by the infinitely greater and more momentous events in Northern Europe. Germany by virtue of her superior methods of mobilisation was the first to make a big move. Her plans were clear and were prepared beforehand. She considered the Russian danger a distant one. With poor methods of mobilization, poor communications and vast distances to cover, Russian attack in her opinion, was a matter that had no need to be considered seriously for some weeks. A few army corps of reserves, with a stiffening of first line troops, operating from the strategic fortified points along the eastern frontier, would be enough to assure the invasion of Poland and occupation of Warsaw, and it was in this zone that Austria was to play her principal role. Germany was to strike at France with the whole of her first line (nearly 1,000,000) without any delay. French mobilisation was not to be compared with German, and Germany was to strike before France was ready. In accordance with this plan, on 2nd August, before even war had been declared on France, German troops crossed the frontier of Alsace-Lorraine and also marched into Luxemburg regardless of the violation of neutral territory.

But it was not on the East that France was to receive the main attack. In that direction she was well fortified and forts would delay Germany. It was by the violation and invasion of neutral Belgium that Germany expected to find the easiest and quickest road to Paris. Troops poured into Belgium expecting to goose-step through to France, but never has a plucky and brave little nation faced greater odds in men and artillery, never has a little nation so heroically defied one so powerful, and never has a nation had to suffer such destruction, devastation and destitution as the heroic Belgians. Liege was the first obstacle that surprised the Germans, and the forts holding out for nearly three weeks, seriously delayed the enemy. But of course nothing could withstand the human deluge. Within the first week Germany had 1,000,000 men across her western frontier: in the first nineteen days 26,000 trains crossed the five Rhine bridges carrying 2,000,000 soldiers west. As in a flood Belgium was overwhelmed. Brussels was occupied on the 20th of August, Namur fell a few days later, and town after town was sacked and burned.

The German front was now near the French frontier with their right ever extending in the hope of enveloping the French left. It was at this point that they first met the British army. The British arrived in the nick of time and checked the German rush to outflank the French. Taking up a position at Mons on 22nd August the British were informed from French headquarters, that two German army corps were in front of them, but the following day word was received that four other German army corps were turning on the British position, and that the French main army was retiring. The British General with only a comparatively small force, had therefore no choice but to retire, and succeeded in taking up the line Cambrai-le-Cateau-Landrecies. It was an extremely difficult and dangerous movement owing to the numbers of the enemy and the exhaustion of our troops who had been fighting for four days and nights continuously against great odds. Dawn of the fifth day found the guns of four German army corps concentrated against the left of one of the British corps, while the only available support that could be sent for was one British division which however was quite incapable of movement through sheer exhaustion. The position was critical in the extreme, and complete annihilation seemed to face General Smith-Dorrien's corps. But the British artillery, though outnumbered four to one made a magnificent fight, and covered the British retirement, splendidly supported by our cavalry in completing a most difficult and dangerous operation. The retreat continued to the 28th when the troops halted on the line Noyon-La Fere, having thrown off the weight of the German pursuit. The exhaustion of our troops after six days and nights continuous fighting can be somewhat imagined when it is stated that they marched 36 miles the first day and 20 miles the second day on two biscuits per man, fighting day and night a desperate rearguard action of altogether seventy miles.

But there was yet no rest. The British were still hard pressed, and following the general plan of the French Commander-in-Chief, retired further to Compiègne and Soissons keeping within one day's march of the main French Army. The German flanking Cavalry were now seriously threatening our communications with Havre, and our base had to be moved further South to St. Nazaire. Although the German Guard Corps had been severely handled, it was not General Joffre's plan to follow up the advantage, but to draw the enemy further on until the position along the whole front of 200 miles was more favourable for the offensive. In accordance with this plan the British continued to retire with the whole French Army and on September 3rd were South of the Marne, and, after blowing up the bridges retired still further South, so far as to get behind the Seine. The Germans must now have thought, Paris was within their grasp. The French Government had withdrawn from Paris to Bordeaux, the Allied troops had retired South-east of Paris.

Now a change in the German tactics took place. It was reported by airscouts that the German right, which had hitherto attempted unsuccessfully to outflank the British

had changed its direction and was marching South-east diagonally across the British front. The object was to drive a wedge through the Allies and so cut Paris and the British off from the main French Army. But when General Joffre had satisfied himself that their new moment had become definite, he decided the moment had come to take the offensive all along the line which extended from Paris to the Swiss frontier. The main French Army was to heavily engage the enemy on the whole front, while the British and the left French Armies were to extend engaging the enemy and endeavour to envelope the German right. The plan was successful at once, and from September 6th not only was the German advance checked, but very soon the enemy commenced a retreat which later developed into a rout, abandoning whole batteries of howitzers, guns, stores and thousands of prisoners. In six days the enemy were driven back no less than 100 kilometres, and they finally took up a strong position along the river Aisne. Here they strongly entrenched themselves (September 16th), and while the German left and left centre remain in more or less the same position to this date, in spite of continual fighting, their right has continually extended (and with it our left), and the area of greatest interest and keenest fighting has since been in Flanders.

After taking up the position on the Aisne, the Germans baulked in their attempt to capture Paris, now seemed to have formed another objective. It might be well here to quote an Imperial Order issued by the Kaiser on 19th August, an order which no Englishman can ever forget or forgive. "It is my Royal and Imperial command that you concentrate your energies for the immediate present upon one single purpose, that is, that you address all your skill and all the valour of my soldiers to exterminate the treacherous English and walk over General French's contemptible little army."

The "Contemptible little army" prevented, in spite of terrible odds, the Germans enveloping the French at Mons. Though outnumbered, it punished the famous German Guards, the flower of the German army. Now the Kaiser infuriated with the English, while holding the main French army along the Aisne, was to devote all his efforts to an attempt to realise the Germans highest dream—the invasion of England. While the British fleet could not abandon sentry go over the German fleet at the mouth of the Ems, perhaps the Kaiser thought the moment opportune to cross the Channel with his legions. Anyhow he seems to have resolved to make the Coast between Calais and Ostend his objective, and from there England would see what she would see. It was first necessary to take Antwerp, otherwise the "treacherous English" might use the town as a base to cut his communications. The famous 42 C. M. Howitzers were moved up, and in due course Antwerp surrendered (October 9th) rather than be put in flames like Louvain, Termonde and Rheims. But on October 6th a new British Army, under General Rawlinson, had been landed at Ostend and Zeebrugge for the purpose of helping the Naval Brigade already sent into Antwerp. This army, however, arrived too late, for as stated Antwerp fell on the 9th, and now the

Germans had their Northern flank clear for the March on Calais. Their forces outnumbering General Rawlinson's by eight to one and consisting of the prime of the German first line troops swooped down on our small force, which from Ghent to Ypres was forced to retreat fighting a desperate rearguard action, hourly in danger of being overwhelmed. A final stand was made at Ypres where our gallant force of considerably less than one corps held over a quarter of a million of Germany's best troops, until General French could transfer supports from the Aisne. Terrible as was the fighting from Mons to Compiègne, it did no exceed in desperation and frenzy the fighting at Ypres. Out of 400 Officers only 44 were left, and only 2,000 men out of one division of 12,000. By October 31st the Germans had accumulated no less than 600,000 troops to deliver, under the Kaiser's eyes, another assault on the British position on the Yser, but the assault was in vain, the road to Calais was blocked, though Ostend had been abandoned. The Germans now had the whole of Belgium, except a small strip near the Coast, under their heel, and this last strip of soil the Belgian army continued to defend. Words cannot adequately describe the admiration that the world must feel for the heroic Belgian King and his gallant army. Their capital moved from Brussels to Antwerp, from Antwerp to Ostend, and finally from Ostend to Havre, their country devastated, their population mutilated, slaughtered or driven out as paupered refugees, this brave little army knew no defeat.

Now at last the Germans were opposite the Coast of England, and they were now to launch Submarines and transports and airships against our shores. But we had a surprise for them. We brought a small squadron of ships off the Ostend Coast, and as fast as the Germans brought up guns they were rendered useless, as fast as they made entrenchments they were made untenable and destroyed, as fast as they brought up troops they met destruction. What happened to the Submarines, Zeppelins, and Pontoon transports reported to have been got ready for the invasion of England is unknown. For miles inland the ground was made untenable for the enemy. Nieuport, Ostend, Zeebrugge, were all tried by the Germans as Coast bases whence England was to be invaded. But the Coast has been found unhealthy by the Germans and they have abandoned it. How could they put together submarines, how construct pontoons for transferring troops, when, not only could nothing live on the Coast under the fire of the big naval guns, but for 10 miles inland no life was safe. In spite of some of the most persistent and bloodiest fighting of the war, the German strength is still devoted to trying to break through to Calais. For weeks now the fighting has been mainly confined to Flanders with Ypres as centre. Town after town and trench after trench have been taken and retaken. But in December, profiting by the withdrawal of the enemy to the Eastern front, the allies took a general offensive, and a slow but certain advance can be recorded up to the end of the year. General French's "contemptible little army" though it has suffered casualties equal to almost the whole original expeditionary force, has grown

from about 100,000 men to probably three times that number, and now includes a complete army from India, and men from all parts of the Empire which the Kaiser thought would not hold together, whilst a further million men, now training in England will very soon be ready to join their brothers across the Channel.

With regard to the Eastern Zone, we get such scanty news of the hostilities, and we naturally follow with greater interest operations in which our own troops play a part, that we are apt to lack appreciation of the magnitude of the Russian operations. From the Baltic to Czernowitz in Southern Galicia the distance would be, as the crow flies, quite 500 miles, but the frontier itself marches for quite 1,000 miles. The Russian Province of Poland projects into Germany being flanked North and South by East Prussia and Austrian Galicia respectively. The nearest part of the Russian (Polish) frontier is only about 180 miles distant from Berlin. But if the Russians had thrown their armies along this shortest route, they would have rendered themselves very liable to have their communications cut either by the Germans from East Prussia or by the Austrians from Galicia. Russian strategy had probably to subordinate itself in the early stages of the war to the more urgent needs of the allies in the West. Russian offensive was not expected by Germany for some time, and the early activity of our Slav ally caused the removal of some of the pressure from the West. But the real offensive had not then commenced. Russia is a country of vast area, and has not numerous roads and railways like Western Europe to facilitate mobilisation. To cover the long front explained above, Russia formed practically three armies; (a) The Northern Army, with the railway to St. Petersburg at the back of it, faces the North-east Prussian frontier; (b) The central army, having the railway Warsaw—St. Petersburg and Warsaw Moscow as communications apparently made Brest Litovsk its initial base, and its first work was to drive the Germans out of Poland; (c) The Southern army, with the line to Kievanad Brest Litovsk as communications, was to invade Galicia. The number of men engaged on both sides must be over five millions.

Up to the time of writing the northern army is just across the Prussian frontier after battles at Gumbinnen (August 19th), Augustowo (October 4th), and Lyck (October 9th), but this army is not likely to race the central army to the German capital, as it would have a longer distance to travel and a number of fortresses to pass.

The central army has a front of over 200 miles and has had many battles to fight in the course of its work of clearing Poland of the enemy. Lunin, Iwagorod, Kielce were the earlier engagements, Lowicz (October 26th) and Lodz (October 28th) resulted in confining the German to an area between the rivers Vistula and Warta. On the northern flank of Poland the enemy was on December 21st driven from Mlava across the frontier, but in the centre the Germans are putting up a most obstinate resistance, and a big force still remains in Polish territory between Sieradz and Lodz with another force in the south between Czenstochow and Cracow. A communique on December

29th announced that the Germans had been further repulsed in this region, losing 15,000 prisoners in the last week's fighting while 50,000 Austrians had also been captured in the last fortnight of the year just ended. The Russian steam roller though slow is sure, and it should now be long before the enemy is driven across the frontier, and as Berlin lies only 180 miles further on, the Russian pressure must soon cause the enemy the most serious anxiety.

The Southern Army crossed into Austrian Galicia in the first months of the war, and by September 2nd had captured Lemburg, and Tomasoff on September 13th, whilst by October 4th the Carpathians which form the Southern boundary of Galicia were held by Russians, a significant fact as the enemy's petrol supply was thus cut off—Galicia being enormously rich in oil,—while the same time the plains of Hungary lay at the feet of the invading Russians. It is stated the Austrians lost 250,000 killed and wounded, 100,000 prisoners and 400 guns in Galicia. Apparently Galicia is conquered and occupied, except for Przemsyl and Cracow, the former being so cut off that the Russians are not apparently troubling to invest it. The Grand Duke's Army is now marching on Cracow, and when their fortress falls the Southern Army has about 200 miles to cover to Vienna.

In the Servian theatre of war it seems impossible, from the little news received, to know what really has happened. We heard of Servian and Montenegrin advances into Bosnia, then we heard of the Austrian occupation of Belgrade and the withdrawal of the Servian Government to Nisch, but now we learn that the Austrians have been driven out of Belgrade. On the whole it seems evident that our Servian Allies have been more than holding their own.

As to Naval events, it has been stated earlier in this article how the German High-Seas Fleet was bottled up, and how the other German units were dispersed over the Oceans. The first incident occurred on August 6th when H.M.S. "Amphion," after sinking a German mine-layer not far from the Thames, herself struck a floating mine and sank. But on 28th August occurred the first Naval Engagement. Warily of waiting for the enemy to come out, a destroyer and submarine squadron was sent to make a sweeping movement and try to cut the German light craft from the base and tempt the enemy out to action. The ruse succeeded, and at a prearranged movement, British cruisers appeared. H.M.S. "Arethusa," leading the line, was attacked by two German cruisers for thirty-five minutes at 3,000 yards, but repulsed the enemy. Later the "Arethusa" engaged two other German cruisers and with the "Fearless" sank the "Mainz." But the battered "Arethusa" had not yet had enough. With speed much reduced and many guns disabled she was about to engage two other Germans when a British Dreadnought with one salvo, sank one of the enemy cruisers. The rest fled to Cuxhaven pursued by our destroyers. Five of the enemy were sunk with a loss of a thousand lives, but most of the eighteen or twenty German ships rounded up were well punished and only saved themselves by scattered flight. Our loss was only 64 killed and wounded. The success of

the operation was largely due to the skill and daring of the British Submarines in entering hostile waters and driving the enemy out. On September 23rd, however, we suffered the loss, through enemy submarines, of three cruisers and many lives, while on November 5th the German Pacific Squadron scored off us in an engagement off Valparaiso when four of our cruisers recklessly gave battle to a hopelessly superior Squadron. But this German Squadron met its fate on December 8th at the Falkland Islands in an engagement with Admiral Sturdee's Squadron, only one German ship escaping annihilation, while not a single British ship was seriously hurt. November 9th saw the end of the "Emden" driven ashore at the Cocos Isles, a battered and burning wreck by H.M.A.S. "Sydney," after a career of two months in the Bay of Bengal and Indian Ocean during which she captured over twenty British merchantmen, sinking most of them. On December 16th a daring raid was made by German cruisers on the Yorkshire Coast, Scarborough, Hartlepool and Whitby suffering a short bombardment, the enemy then retiring; while on Christmas Day a naval attack on Cuxhaven by British Sea-planes and Submarines was made and was met by German Zeppelins, seaplanes and submarines. Our raiders managed to inflict damage on the enemy with practically no loss to themselves.

The naval position today is that, while the German losses are rather greater than ours, by the addition of new ships to our Fleet we are stronger in units, men and guns than we were at the beginning of the war, and our superiority over the enemy has accordingly increased. Moreover all our later Dreadnoughts are armed with 15-inch guns and can therefore easily outrange the German Dreadnoughts whose biggest gun is 12-inch.

On October 29th the Port of Odessa was raided by Turkish Torpedo boats and a few days later Turkey was formally at war with the Allies. The Dardanelles were bombarded by an Anglo-French Fleet on October 3rd, and on the 6th a Russian Caucasian Army defeated the Turks at Myssanor. Cyprus has been annexed by England, a British Indian force has occupied the rich Turkish province at the head of Basra; and on December 18th the Union Jack was hoisted in Cairo proclaiming a British Protectorate over Egypt.

Through the Japanese Navy, Germany's Pacific Colonies have fallen, and, while fighting still proceeds in some of the German African Colonies, the rest have been taken from her.

To sum up the results of five months war, Germany has failed to reach her three objectives; First Paris which was due to be occupied within the first month, then Warsaw which was to be seized soon after Paris, and lastly Calais for the invasion of England. The German Fleet remain in hiding in Kiel, and on all the oceans of the world there remain but two hostile men-of-war unaccounted for—the "Karlsruhe" and the "Dresden." Germany has already lost practically all her Colonies, and German and Austrian external trade is shattered. Turkey, who misguided joined our enemies, is now suffering dismemberment of

Empire, having already lost Egypt and Cyprus and being now threatened with the loss of the rich province of the Tigris-Euphrates Valley by British Indian troops at Basra. If the tide of war has, then, turned in our favour, we must not therefore imagine that the finish will be easy and quick. Apart from Austria, there is in Germany a population of **seventy million souls** who, if in nothing else, are united in their hatred of England. Though the Germans are beginning to realise that their plans of conquest have collapsed, though they have suffered on all fronts losses that must approach quite 2,000,000 men, yet such is the spirit of this proud, military nation against defeat and dictation by their victors, that these conscript losses are more than made up by a *volunteer* army.

The Germans on the defensive have in each theatre of war several stand-out natural lines of defence—in the West, the Meuse, Rhine, Weser and Elbe, all running South to North. The Rhine, in addition to being fortified and being a broad, deep and rapid river, having railways parallel to it enabling troops to be moved rapidly from one point to another; in the East, the Vistula, the Warta, the Swamps and finally the Oder. If we have been unsuccessful in four months in turning the enemy out of their hastily constructed entrenchments on the Aisne, how much longer are we likely to be in overcoming them in trenches and fortifications in the lines above mentioned, lines which we can be sure are being prepared thoroughly. From the point of view of men and food supplies Germany would appear quite capable of an almost indefinite resistance—she produces nine-tenths of her own bread-corn, and the balance can easily be made up from her superfluity of potatoes; she has ample sugar and meat and lacks principally in dairy produce. But the one weak spot in her armour of defence is that she has not within her territories the essentials for the manufacture of ammunition. If our blockade is effective, and if we can prevent these essentials entering Germany through neutral countries, then time will play into our hands. It is said that, even though the enemy becomes much less active, she has not enough ammunition, or raw materials for its manufacture, to last beyond June next.

But already one good, an incalculable, immeasurable good, has resulted to us from this war. The British Empire is so far flung, its great dominions, containing men of so many races and creeds, and possessing such a high degree of independence, are governed by a moral rather than a military force, that we could only hope that in the great day of trial our loosely-knit Empire would be able to weather the storm. To the enemies' surprise and disgust, from the moment that England went to war there burst spontaneously into flame a loyalty and a patriotism to England that Hindoo has vied with Mohamedan, Sultan with Maharajah, Canadian Frenchman with Australian. There is no dominion, Colony or Protectorate, but what has given in men or treasure, not a week passes but some princely gift of foodstuff, ambulance or whatnot is sent to the King from our overseas subjects.

Kaiser Wilhelm, if you have failed to extend your Empire, you have succeeded beyond the dreams of any Statesman in thoroughly and effectually consolidating the British Empire for which we shall never cease to thank you.

H. J. TEMPLE.

Ambawela, January 1st, 1915.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Correspondents are permitted to adopt a nom-de-plume for publication, but must in every case authenticate their letters to the Editor. While a free ventilation of ideas and opinions is welcomed it must not be assumed that the opinions expressed by correspondents in these columns represent the views of the Editor or the Controlling Committee of the Gazette.

THE EDITOR,
"Planting Gazette."

Unitas Nostra Salus.

DEAR SIR,

I was exceedingly glad to read in the minutes of the last P. A. Committee Meeting that it has been decided that letters written over a *nom de plume* will be accepted in the Planting Gazette, provided they are authenticated in the usual way. I therefore hasten to approach you on a subject which, from the nature of things, can only be broached by a veiled personality.

There were some of us who were sorry that Mr. Chas Gibbon withdrew one of his resolutions at the last general meeting of the Planters' Association. While not in agreement with the wording of that resolution,—while opposed, indeed, to the resolution,—as such—we felt that it might be made the thin end of a wedge which would open matters to a more serious discussion later. In other words, Sir, Mr. Gibbon's resolution was an attempt to make the estate superintendent assert himself: and as such it was worthy of a little further publicity.

The professional politics of the working planter are almost as varied as the elevations at which he works. They range from rabid anarchy to a stolid conservatism which can only be stirred by the close application of a booted foot. Standing as I do, somewhat midway between these extremes I am venturing to put before you the barest outlines of an idea which is shared with me by many, and which I hope you will freely ventilate in your columns, though I cannot hope that either you or your executive will assist it with the weight of your opinion.

Where Mr. Gibbon's resolution was faulty was in the suggestion that the superintendent of his ideal should attend future meetings of the parent association armed with two votes: one voicing his own opinions, and the others those of his employers. In the possible event of a clash of

opinion, such a superintendent would be justified in thinking his journey to Kandy a waste of time and money, with the result that in times of moment the association meetings would be more sparsely attended than at present. Mr. Gibbon, however, was right in his object. He wants all we want to arrive at a true planting decision on all planting subjects submitted to the general meeting; and many of us think that such opinion is muzzled to a great extent—first by the presence of reporters and next by stage-fright brought on by the listening attention of certain members of the audience. Much valuable thought is thus lost through an absurd hesitancy to rise and address a community which admittedly gives its most patient consideration to all who like to speak.

Let me illustrate my point. Rather more than two years ago Messrs. Coles and Drummond-Hay paid a memorable visit to India and came back full of ideas on legislation. The parent committee after many sittings backed these ideas and submitted them to a general meeting. This meeting cut out half the legislation, passed the remainder, and elected a committee, and the latter in conjunction with the estate agents, cut out the remainder of the legislation and framed the present rules of the Proprietors' Labour Federation.

Now, Sir, I contend that these rules represent the opinion neither of the working planter nor of the estate agents. They are an extraordinary compromise, and I doubt if any one is satisfied with them save the few on either side who by the boom of their voices and the majesty of their position overruled the others. I do not for a moment suggest that a quiet expression of planting opinion would have arrived at better results, but I do hold that many of us would be easier in our minds if we knew that these rules had been framed by working planters instead of by men who, whatever they may once have been, are no longer on the active list.

How then, you may ask, are we to arrive at an expression of such opinion? Briefly—by the formation of an association of working planters, an association neither one with nor antagonistic to but having representatives on the parent association; these representatives to be proprietary working planters. Subscriptions to such an association would be private, and non-membership should signify nonentity; no reporters would be admitted to the meetings, and no visitors admitted save those outside the issue of planting politics.

At the outset, however, we run up against the rabid anarchist mentioned above. This gentleman firmly believes that a powerful clique rules the roost in Kandy, snubbing all attempt at private enterprise; no amount of argument will convince him to the contrary. This gentleman also believes that the estate agents are a blackguardly crew, out for blood and two and a half per cent; his one idea is an aggressive Planters' Union which shall be constantly butting its head against a stone wall and giving a shocking display of nether quarters. Needless to say I have no use for such sentiments. Then again there is the stolid conservative who absolutely refuses to budge from the shelter of the stone wall, and his tongue too often lurks where it should not, and

his opinions are tainted by others. This man is no asset.

Here Sir, I reluctantly leave my subject. The art of writing is to whet the appetite; and if I have so affected your readers consider me well-contented. I hope you will invite correspondence on this matter. I hope too, that those who do reply to this letter, will strive after that moderation which is true dignity. Let the working planter be a voice—but a quiet one. Quiet voices often carry far and are heard. Often too, there is a touch of steel in them.

Yours, etc.,

FESTINA LENTE.

Yatiantota, December 23rd, 1914.

THE EDITOR,

"Planting Gazette."

Red Slug in Tea.

SIR,—The following remarks *re* the habits of Red Slug in Tea interplanted with rubber may be new to some planters, and consequently of interest to them.

Each caterpillar forms a cocoon on a tea leaf after it has done its work of destruction, and eventually there emerges a moth, either male or female. If the pest is allowed to get to this stage it does not take much imagination to see that when these moths have laid their eggs that the next lot of caterpillars will have increased enormously in number and will do a very large amount of damage.

The usual remedial measures are (1) collecting and destroying the larvae and cocoons, (2) spraying the bushes or (3) pruning the field and then collecting and burning all prunings, larvae, and cocoons lying about the ground.

This is all very well, but in a tea field on Mipitiakande which is interplanted with rubber and adjoins a rubber clearing, I have noticed a tendency for the larvae, after they have attained to maturity, to climb up the interplanted rubber trees and also to go into the rubber clearing and do the same there. I am now engaged in thinning out the rubber in this clearing, and on some of the felled trees' upper branches I have noticed cocoons exactly similar to those formed on the tea bushes. The moths had escaped from these, and inside this clearing and round the tops of some of the interplanted trees there were moths flitting about which were to all appearance the *Heterusia Cingala* which is the "imago" of Red Slug.

It must be apparent that it is impossible to destroy cocoons which are in the tops of rubber trees, and this fact seems to render it a difficult matter to combat the pest in tea which is interplanted with rubber or adjoins a rubber clearing.

The only suggestion I can make is that stringent measures should be taken to destroy the larvae *before* they attain maturity and form cocoons.

The matter seems of general interest, which must be my excuse for asking you to insert this letter.

Yours, etc.,

A. D. GILBERT BURNETT.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Department of Agriculture,
Peradeniya, 15th December, 1914.
THE SECRETARY,
Ceylon Planters' Association, Kandy.

SIR,

I have the honour to draw your attention to the regulations published in the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6675 of October 23rd, 1914, under the Insect pest and Quarantine ordinance No. 5 of 1901, and to point out that a person in charge of a tea estate or garden infested or

suspected to be infested by Shot-hole Borer (*Xyleborus fornicatus*, Eich.) and failing to notify me of the same is guilty of an offence under the ordinance punishable by imprisonment not exceeding a term of six months or a fine not exceeding one thousand rupees or both.

2. I should be glad if you would be good enough to bring these facts before the notice of members of the Ceylon Planters' Association as soon as possible.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) R. N. LYNE, Director of Agriculture.

STRENGTH RETURN.—CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.
FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1914.

Cor.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.										Lance-Serjts & Corp's.				Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.	Coy. Strength.	
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Serjt. Major.	Qr. M. Serjt.	Colour-Sergeant.	Sergeant.	Lance-Serjts & Corp's.	Serjt.-Bugler.	Buglers.			Privates and Lance-Corporals.
	Staff	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
A.	Kelani Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	26	80	
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	16	
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	54
B.	Kandy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	15	18	
	Matale	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	10	12	
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	
	Rangalla	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8	45
C.	Mattakelle	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	10	14	
	Agrapatna	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	9	12	
	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	11	13	
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	7	8	
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	13	15	
	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	6	7	
	Pundaloya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	7	8	77
D.	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	11	12	
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	5	7	
	Haputale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	6	
	Badulla	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	17	21	
	Uda Pussellawa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	8	11	
	Batticaloa	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	7	11	68	
E.	Kalutara	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	32	
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	17	
	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	21	22	
	Anuradhapura	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	12	15	
	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	5	6	92
F.	Colombo	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	37	41	41	
G.	Ambegamuwa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	13	15	
	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	10	
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	4	3	...	10	12	37
H.	Colombo	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	57	67	
	Motor Cycle Section	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	28	30	97
	Contingent { C. M. R.	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	36	39	
	Contingent { C. P. R. C.	...	...	1	3	2	...	...	1	1	...	7	8	4	164	191	230
TOTAL STRENGTH		1	2	9	11	4			1	1		5	24	30	1	9	643	741
Strength by last Return		1	2	9	11	4			1	1		5	22	28	1	9	674	768
Increase Since												2	2					
Decrease Since															3		27	
TOTAL																	57	
C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File 48																		
Total Strength including Reserve																		
ANDREWS, Captain, Acting Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.																		

* C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 9, Rank & File 48
Total strength including Reserve

798

ANDREWS, Captain, Acting Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month ending November, 1914.

DETAIL.		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Trumpeters.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant Acting.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. Instructor.	T. Ind.	REMARKS.
Regtl. Staff		1	1	1	2	1	6	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	10	1	1	1	...	
A. Squadron																										
Staff	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	23	27	27	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	4	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	23	25	26	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	1	1	26	32	33	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	...	...	1	1	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	6	...	1	3	2	2	74	89	93	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron																										
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	1	20	25	26	...	...	...	...
" II. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	1	1	15	20	21	...	...	...	...
" III. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	27	30	31	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	17	19	20	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	...	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	...	4	2	3	79	96	102	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	1	1	2	1	6	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	10	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	1	1	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	6	...	1	3	2	2	74	89	93	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	...	4	2	3	79	96	102	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	3	3	8	1	16	1	1	1	1	2	12	1	1	7	4	5	153	189	205	1	1	1	...	
Total Strength last Return	...	1	3	3	8	1	16	1	1	1	1	2	10	1	1	9	5	5	143	180	196	...	...	...	...
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	...	
Wanting to Complete	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	(2)	...	...	1	5	4	3	31	45	47	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	...	1	2	3	...	6	...	1	1	1	...	5	...	2	1	...	...	21	32	38	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve	...	1	4	5	11	1	22	1	2	2	2	2	17	1	1	9	5	5	174	221	243	1	1	1	...	
Contingent Company	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	32	37	39	...	...	...	...

A. E. ANDREWS, Captain,

Acting Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

THE CEYLON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY PRICE CURRENT.

STATEMENT OF EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

No. 50

COLOMBO, THURSDAY, 31st DECEMBER, 1914.

RICE.					Rs.	Cts.	@	Rs.	Cts.
Muttusamba No. 1 (without bags) per bushel F. O. R. Colombo	...	...	...	...	6	50	"	7	00
" " 2	"	"	"	"	6	00	"	6	50
" " 3	"	"	"	"	5	00	"	6	00
Soolaye " 1	"	"	"	"	4	40	"	4	45
" " 2	"	"	"	"	4	30	"	4	35
" " 3	"	"	"	"	4	15	"	4	30
" Kara	"	"	"	"	4	20	"	4	25
Silhet (Hari Kali)	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Pegu & Calcutta Calunda	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Coast Calunda	"	"	"	"	4	42	"	4	44
Coast Kara	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	4	10
Kadappa and Kuruwe	"	"	"	"	...	...	"	...	...
Rangoon Raw	"	per 3 bushel bag	"	"	...	...	"	...	...

EXPORT DISTRIBUTION: YEARS 1914 AND 1913.

COMPARISON OF SHIPMENTS FROM 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER, 1914.

(From the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce Price Current.)

COUNTRIES.	Black Tea.		Green Tea.		Rubber.		Cocoa.		Cardanoms.		Coconut Oil.		Copra.		Desiccated Coconut.		Coconuts.	
	1914 lbs.	1913 lbs.	1914 lbs.	1913 lbs.	1914 lbs.	1913 lbs.	1914 cwt.	1913 cwt.	1914 lbs.	1913 lbs.	1914 cwt.	1913 cwt.	1914 cwt.	1913 cwt.	1914 lbs.	1913 lbs.	1914 No.	1913 No.
To United Kingdom	109779444	106758489	523025	677556	21444077	15046548	20164	41647	210916	168216	191336	147410	417322	1500	1444573	13183500	8271383	11069331
" Australia	220031	321009	...	...	31434	31434	195	170	...	71	6194	13503	93356	38008	565540	655870	104360	211700
" Belgium	40688	103060	...	...	2084009	3908074	269	409	...	1510	2918	4407	69247	10609	1056010	207256	104360	1118120
" France	931430	741113	...	...	320152	254119	100	1470	5937	6612	1485	1711	32453	4040	232730	27254	1238135	1679744
" Germany	380977	618594	...	...	1037415	364982	322	3654	52766	110390	706	3116	773702	773702	482250	482250	1238135	512835
" Holland	27022	29331	...	...	...	992	...	851	300	3990	...	...	167317	25167	103192	692553	2306885	47345
" Denmark	14549	19354	...	...	...	1772	...	...	3437	2312	...	...	...	...	21450	60450	20	118850
" Italy	40342	38494	...	...	...	44784	...	...	1536	1954	...	...	...	...	1190	600	46185	...
" Russia	1185462	18117402	1841537	1640236	102212	101116	75	220	...	...	513	401	163754	238384	1950	532228	30150	45310
" Spain	41737	47259	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	879830	37220	150	...
" Norway	5900	17416	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37000	59280	...	200
" Sweden	71433	131444	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1176	569	1760	10500
" Turkey	88924	214344	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8719	18610	...	...
" South Australia	88924	214344	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	543101	811644	...	...
" Victoria	170876	1503186	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	143423	130390	...	...
" New South Wales	10277031	989937	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	463142	202854	...	297920
" Queensland	1028438	883118	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8378471	9483796	...	...
" Rest of "Australia"	43338	36897	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	787884	49352	...	1354071
" New Zealand	619454	5044503	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" United States	1097972	7378136	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Canada & Newfoundland	6832134	5708182	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Rest of "America"	133974	137313	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Egypt	1098003	581708	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Africa	2640804	2966014	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Madagascar	1853129	1519028	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" India	439414	489716	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Straits	5729039	8207571	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Philippine Islands	62773	58508	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Japan	64103	58508	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Mauritius	103772	102357	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Malta	80463	114083	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Exports from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1914	131133823	18917361	4263221	5018527	30253114	25009486	49192	64632	373321	436997	498631	531489	1314185	1097092	33701515	32886784	11065369	16469064
Week ended Dec. 31, 1914	5474249	...	67667	...	1346497	...	3664	...	24933	...	31617	...	73522	...	733790	...	174967	...
From Jan. to Dec. 21, 1914	17561374	...	4135354	...	34888617	...	43528	...	351368	...	435064	...	1241663	...	3296725	...	101102	...
Total Exports from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1913	181133823	...	4963321	...	36225114	...	49192	...	373321	...	498631	...	1314185	...	33701515	...	11065369	...
Do. do. 1913	180417051	...	5018527	...	235009486	...	64652	...	436997	...	531489	...	1097092	...	32886784	...	16469064	...
Do. do. 1912	175434795	...	780924	...	14159061	...	68890	...	436475	...	371576	...	586990	...	30613411	...	15918611	...
Do. do. 1911	175010648	...	8564302	...	8675039	...	60310	...	556013	...	495466	...	785034	...	31885250	...	15269725	...

* The export figures of Rubber given in the above table include the Imports re-exported. [These amount to 3,412,971 lb.—2,686,710 lb. from the Straits and 714,637 lb. from India.—Ed. C.O.] To arrive at the approximate quantity of Ceylon Rubber exported to date deduct the quantity of Imports shown in the Import Table from the total Exports.

ONLY COMPLETED MANIFESTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE TABLE.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTE.

NOVEMBER.

The recruiting figures still show a considerable falling off both for the month and for the portion of the year concluded on the 30th November. The decrease for the month is 1,842, while for the completed portion of the year it is 24,816. I would also draw attention to the figures of the Ceylon Government Emigration Camps which show that the total number of coolies who emigrated to Ceylon up to the 30th November was 76,616 as against 115,555 for the similar period of last year. It should be noted that of the coolies who went to Ceylon last year 80 per cent. were despatched through this Commission, while this year the percentage of coolies despatched by the Commission is 89 per cent. of the whole. The figures show that the restriction of emigration has been general and has been more severe as regards industries other than planting.

It will be seen from the reports of the Assistant Commissioners appended that there are still rumours prevalent regarding the war and a belief seems to prevail that the journey to Ceylon is menaced by considerable dangers owing to the activities of the Enemy's Navy. Thousands of notices have been circulated by me stating that the route to Ceylon is perfectly safe and that the conditions of employment have not varied appreciably owing to the war, but I am afraid that in many instances my assurances have not been believed. However, a vigorous advertising campaign is still being maintained by my Assistants and Agents, and I trust that it will have beneficial results as regards the season of next year.

With regard to the various Circles, it will be noted that the falling off in numbers has been general.

The Telugu Circle shows very bad results and it was found necessary to close the Agency at Nellore owing to lack of support; for the same reason the Agency at Guntur will be closed on the 31st December, and Chittoor Agency has also been recommended for closing. The district in which the latter Agency is situated is conveniently served by the Katpadi Agency and its retention is unnecessary.

ARCOT CIRCLE.—In the Arcot Circle, every Agency shows a decrease which is specially marked in the case of Chingleput and Villupuram. I propose in the New Year to open an Agency at Polur between Katpadi and Villupuram. This place has recently been visited by the Deputy Commissioner and his report regarding it will be found below. Polur will conveniently serve a large district and will be useful as an advertising and recruiting centre.

SALEM CIRCLE.—Nanjangud Agency shows a considerable increase over the figures of last year, but this partly due to the fact that Bangalore Agency has been closed. Namakal Agency in this Circle shows an increase in numbers, but it is not a very large one. The remaining Agencies are all lower than last year.

HEAD-QUARTER CIRCLE.—At Cannanore, there has been an increase of 71 coolies and I would draw attention to the remarks of the Assistant Commissioner of the Head-quarter

Circle regarding this Agency. It would appear that Estates will be able to obtain large numbers of Malayalee coolies if they so desire. Tanjore shows an increase of more than 300 and this is very satisfactory, as the new Agency at Arantangi has undoubtedly forwarded coolies which would otherwise have been presented at Tanjore. Trichinopoly shows a decrease of 11,000. This is not altogether due to the slackening of recruiting in this district alone, but is a general reflection of the whole situation, as many Kanganies bring their coolies direct to Trichinopoly for registration from northern parts of the Presidency.

MADURA CIRCLE.—Madura shows a gratifying increase of nearly 1,000 coolies which has been ascribed to the climate conditions which have prevailed. There has been a shortage of rain and in consequence land could not be cultivated as it should have been, and coolies were thus released for emigration. Mandapam Camp figures also show a tremendous increase over last year and over last year's figures at Pamban and a great many coolies from the Ramnad District have been registered there. Had the Mandapam Agency not been opened, it is probable that many coolies from the Ramnad District would have gone to Madura so that the increase at both Agencies is satisfactory.

Tataparai shows a large falling off which is, of course due to the fact that the main route to Ceylon is via Mandapam. This also explains a great portion of the Mandapam increase. Tondi has not done at all well and it is possible that a proportion of coolies who would have been registered there have been taken direct to Mandapam. Tinnevely shows a large reduction almost entirely due to the fact that this is a district with a very close connection with Ceylon in general and Colombo in particular, and a great many coolies at the time of outbreak of plague in Colombo and spread all sorts of false reports. The same class of report-monger has been active since the outbreak of war.

RECRUITING CERTIFICATES.

I would draw attention to the Deputy Commissioner's report on his interview with the Missionaries in Gooty which is in one of the Telugu Districts. I would impress on Superintendents the urgent necessity of giving every Kangany one of the Commission Recruiting Certificates properly filled in with the correct rates of wages and signed by the Superintendent. If the Kangany has one of these, the statement regarding conditions of employment and so on can be backed up by my Assistants and Agents, whereas at the present time I have found that Kanganies make exaggerated claims regarding the wages paid on their Estates and it has been impossible for my staff to corroborate their statements.

PROSPECTS OF RECRUITING.

As will be seen by the detailed statements below. Prospects of Recruiting are not bright. Good crops are anticipated over the larger part of the Presidency, and with the exception of Malabar there will not be much possibility of obtaining labour until the paddy harvest is over. In

districts where groundnuts have been harvested, the earnings of the labourers have been very small owing to the fact that they are paid in kind for what they dig. They receive a proportion of the crop varying from one quarter to one fifth, and as the price of groundnuts is only half of what it was at this time last year, the cooly is not likely to be able to save much out of his earnings and in consequence will have little to fall back upon after the paddy harvest has been got in about February.

DHANUSHKODI FORWARDING AGENCY.

It has now been found possible to open this, as the South Indian Railway Co. has almost completed the erection of a suitable building for the Feeding Contractors at Dhanushkodi. Superintendents have already been notified by advertisement in the Ceylon newspapers that the agency will be opened on the 1st January, 1915, and I will have an Agent and peon in attendance from that date to see that all Estate coolies are passed through without hindrance, and that they get proper meals before starting their train journey. Although it is possible for coolies to book straight through from Ceylon Stations to stations in South India, my Agent will be empowered to purchase Railway tickets where the Superintendent desires this to be done. It is probable that in many cases this method will be more desirable than that of giving the cooly large sums of money in Ceylon. If the services of the Forwarding Agency are availed of to the fullest extent, it will only be necessary to give the Kangany or cooly who is coming to the Coast sufficient money to pay his rail fare and batta from the Estate to Dhanushkodi. He will then be fed and a rail ticket purchased for him to his destination. If the Superintendent desires a man to have a pre-advance for recruiting purposes, this can be paid at the Agency nearest his home, or at Trichinopoly. I recommend the latter procedure in all possible cases especially if the sum is an appreciable one. These pre-advances at Trichinopoly are paid by a European Officer and thus there is no opportunity for the Kangany to make complaint regarding delays, attempts at extortion, and so on.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,

Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

NOVEMBER CAMP.

POLUR TALUQ.

Arcoet and Telugu Circles,

Camp, Villupuram, 29th November, 1914.

THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,

Trichinopoly.

DEAR SIR.

In accordance with your instructions I went to Polur station on the 25th instant, and as the Local Fund Travelers bungalow was fully occupied, I took up my quarters in a P. W. D. inspection bungalow at Bakmarpet, 3 miles from Polur.

Polur is a union town of about 10,000 inhabitants and is the headquarters of the Polur Taluq. A good metalled road runs to Arni, about 18 miles distant, and a branch of this goes to Kannamangalam via Santavasal. Another road runs to the Eastward to Wandiwash, via Sethupatti where a connecting road joins it from Arni. Wandiwash is distant about 40 miles, and a good deal of traffic comes into Polur along this road.

On the 26th I made rather a late start along the Arni road, as I had waited for the arrival of my tapal. At 3 miles from Bakmarpet the road to Kannamangalam branches to the north. Continuing on the Arni road, and through the Kelur Reserved forest, one comes to some very fertile-looking country, and an apparently well watered one. The paddy is looking very well, and the crops in dry land also.

At 6 miles distance is the village of Kastambadi of about 2,000 inhabitants. Here the majority of the people are agriculturists, and a good deal of weaving is done also. I could learn of no one who had been to Ceylon, but was told that about 20 or 30 people had gone to Penang, and though none had returned, they had sent letters and money to their relations. I distributed advertisements, and enquiries were made as to how people were to get there. They were interested to learn that it was a two days journey in the train only, and were much struck with my statement that Ceylon is very close to Rameswaram, and that one passes that temple on the way. Wages here are about 4 annas for men, and 2 to 3 annas for women. A lot of land is under groundnuts and digging them is paid for in kind, about 1/5 of what a cooly digs in his wages.

Kalamboor is the next village, and is 1½ miles from Arni Railway station. Here I had an interview with the Village Munsiff, a brahmin. I also stopped in the pariah quarter, and spoke to the coolies. The village is a large one, of about 1,000 houses and 5,000 people. It has an alternative name of Alliyabad.

The majority of the people depend on agriculture, and there are a number of weavers also. I was informed that the price of cloths had gone up, owing to the increase in the cost of dye stuffs. I could not hear of any one here who had gone to Ceylon, nor was there any one who knew of it, although "Penang" was well known. The crops are principally paddy and a good harvest is expected, in dry crops the cholam and dhali look well. Wages here are much the same as at Kastambadi. I then returned to Bakmarpet, and distributed notices along the road to various wayfarers who were going to distant villages.

The afternoon I spent in repairing my motor cycle, which refused to start.

On the 27th I took the road early, and started for Settu-patti. The road is good but 3 miles out of Polur is the Cheyaru River, a wide expanse of sand, with a stream about 20 yards wide. There was a good deal of delay here, getting coolies to push the cycle across the sand, and carry it over the water. A cause-way is being built and the centre is completed, so that it is possible to walk across dry shod but the approaches are impossible for a vehicle. Thre

miles on is the turn off the Mandakollatur. I did not go there as the road was bad, but I gave advertisements to people on their way there.

At 7 miles from Polur is Modaiyur, a village of 100 houses, the population are all agriculturists, and grow paddy principally with some gram. The wages of men are 3 to 4 annas and the women $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 annas. Here I found a man who had been to Penang, but none knew of Ceylon.

Devikapuram is the next village, some 3 miles on and here there are about 200 houses with a population of about 3,000. A lot of weaving is done, and the fields around the village must employ a lot of labour. No one had gone to Penang or Ceylon from here, and no one had heard of either place. Wages are 4 annas for men and 2 to 3 annas for women. Crops are principally paddy, but some dry crops are grown also. A very large number of poor quality cattle are grazed on the stoney hills hereabouts. I went about 4 miles beyond Devikapuram distributing notices on the road side, and then turned and halted at minor villages of Bemuni, Pitandur and Kurapandi, and so to Bakmarpet.

In the afternoon I took the Arni road again taking the Kannamangalam branch at the junction. Parvalanapur is the first village, and has about 56—60 houses, no one has gone to Ceylon, but one man had been to Natal, on a sugar estate. Cattle drovers with a large number of cattle were encamped here, and there were some good looking bulls for sale. The head drover told me that he had come down from Chittoor District. He was on his way to Tiruvannamalai where a large fair is to be held.

There was some large talk about wages here, for which I think the man from Natal was responsible, they talked of 6 to 8 annas for men and 4 annas for women. I think that these were exaggerations.

Sandavasal is a fair sized village of about 1,400 people and has had a very good season, and as their tank is full again, for the 4th time only in 20 years, they anticipate a heavy paddy crop. I was told here that groundnuts did not pay to dig, and that they were being left in the fields in many cases. Wages are 4 annas for men and 2 annas for women. Kumbu and cholam is grown as well as paddy and groundnuts. I was looking for a kangany here who gave his address as Sandavasal but no one knew him. I was told that a man in the next village had been to Ceylon but as it was 5 miles over a rough and unformed road, I did not go. On the way back I called at Minnandangal, a village $\frac{1}{2}$ mile off the road, and left some advertisements. It is a small place of 15 houses, and no one has gone to Ceylon.

On the 28th I was due in Villupuram, but in order to have a look at the country south of Polur, I decided to travel by motor cycle to Tiruvannamalai and left Polur about 2 p.m. A few miles out is the village of Kunamalai, of about 30 houses, no one had gone to Ceylon or Penang either. Just before the road reaches Kalasapakam, a village of about 1,700 people, it turns to the south across the Cheyaru

River; this crossing is a more difficult one than the one on the Devikapuram road, and the water was almost knee deep. The road up to this had been excellent, but it changed on the other side of the river, and had recently been repaired with mud and stones. Heavy rain had fallen and continued, and from thence on to Tiruvannamalai it was a difficult drive. The Kalasapakam men who carried my cycle across stated that wages were 6 to 8 annas for men, and 3 to 4 annas for whom, I do not think this is correct, they were probably exaggerating with a view to enhanced charges for transporting the bicycle. After leaving here the road traverses a desolate looking tract of country, with not much crop, and little visible settlement.

At the village of Puthur Mailawady I found about 50 houses, and the wages were said to be 6 annas for men, and 2 annas for women; this is not the usual proportion. Paddy and groundnuts alone are grown. After this settlement is sparse and I ran on into Tiruvannamalai, having to get the cycle carried over another stream where the water was running 3 feet deep.

Tiruvannamalai was in the midst of the Karthikai festival, which lasts for 10 days, last year some 2 lacs of people attended, but there are not so many this year owing mainly to the war and the fall in the price of groundnuts.

I took the opportunity of distributing a fair number of hand bills and posters.

It would appear from the above that the opening of an Agency at Polur might be useful, I would not, however, recommend the closing of the Katpadi Agency on that account. If the funds are available I think the experiment should be made, and the Agency established in the new year. If it is considered, however, that the restriction of the number of recruiting Kanganies, which obtained this year, is to continue them I doubt if the opening of an additional Agency here would do much good. Advertising to the Commission will not do much good unless the Kanganies are there to follow it up.

Yours faithfully,

N. H. M. BOWDEN,

Deputy Commissioner.

NOVEMBER CAMPING.

Salem, Salem Circle.

3rd December, 1911

THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,
Trichinopoly.

DEAR SIR,

Leaving Salem on the 23rd I proceeded 32 miles Attur. The 24th was spent in inspecting the Agency records and other matters connected with the work of the Office and Depot. On the 25th I visited the village of Kumbadi where the population amounts to about 700. Everyone seemed to be very satisfied with things at present.

as the good state of their crops and abundant rain have given them plenty of work to do, wages remain about the same. I also visited Narasingapuram on my way back and checked a defaulting case.

On the 26th I visited Naduvalur. A few people have been encouraged by Mr. T. G. Sim's efforts in July last to go to Ceylon on Doraikanack and the Villagers report that they have written to their relations and seem very contented. This has had a good impression, though there is no keenness to emigrate during the present season while there is plenty of work to be done in the fields. The population of this place is nearly 7000, the wages are much the same. I succeeded in unearthing two Kanganies here, neither of whom appear to be doing very much. After this I paid a visit to Thidavur, but the inhabitants showed very little interest though I went into the paria quarter and distributed Notices. Crops are all in very good condition here and all the labour available is busily employed.

On the 27th I went out to Thalavassal where I had an interview with the Village Kurnam. He informed me that the population consisted of about 2,000 people and there was plenty of work at present in the fields. Wages remain the same as hitherto reported, viz., 4 annas and 3 annas and nobody thinks very much about emigration at present. I distributed Notices, however, explaining that there was no difficulty in emigrating to Ceylon at present.

On the 28th I went out to Gangavalli where I also interviewed the Village Kurnam. About 100 people are said to have emigrated to Ceylon from here from time to time and the population of the Village is about 300. They have had plenty of rain here as in other parts, and all are busily engaged in cultivation. I also interviewed the father of a Kangany here and ascertained some particulars about a Kangany of another Estate. In the course of the day I interviewed three other A. Form holders and have duly reported the information obtained.

On the 30th I went out to a village called Kandasamy Padur, which consists of about 1,000 inhabitants, and tried to find out if there was anybody as keen to emigrate to Ceylon as they apparently were in last July when I visited the village. I am afraid however the present circumstances, good crops and rain, have not encouraged them very much to think of emigration. I spoke to an influential man here, whom I saw last July and who said that he would do his best to explain to the people the advantages of going to Ceylon, and he pointed out that this was not a good time for recruiting coolies and that there would not be likely to be anyone anxious to leave the village for the next few months. He read out a special handbill and assisted me in explaining that the War did not affect coolies going to Ceylon in any way, as they were sent by the new Rail Route. Crops are good and they have had rain and have got plenty of work in consequence. From here I went on to Thammampatty and interviewed the Village Munsiff. He informed me that they have not had as much rain as wanted, as some of the paddy fields have

been watered from the wells. There is about 9 inches of water in the River and they have had a fair amount of rain lately. The village Munsiff informed me that all labouring classes had work to do and wages remain the same as at other times. It has rained almost incessantly day and night during the last five or six days of my camp which has made the roads in a frightful state and turned every little stream and water course into a river, and advantage is generally taken of the rainy season, to repair the roads, so that the state of the roads covered with loose clay or mud can be better imagined than described and I had frequently to push my Motor Cycle through long stretches of mire as the Engine refused to do its duty under such circumstances. I took advantage of any break in the weather to go out to villages but as a rule got thoroughly soaked before I returned.

On the 1st December it rained steadily all day without a break.

On the 2nd I completed my final inspection of the Agency and returned to Salem, the road being in an appalling state on account of the recent rain.

Of course the War has affected the Villagers, even in the remotest parts, in some way or other. I do not mean materially, but by the rumours that have been spread. These are extraordinary and most amusing in some cases. I hear, that in spite of the Hand Bills, which have been freely distributed, some people still refuse to believe that it is possible to go to Ceylon. Reasons for this being that when a Cruiser or some neutral Merchant ship is reported in the papers to have been sunk anywhere at all on the High seas, it is taken for granted at once that this is the Kandy Boat and all possibility of getting to Ceylon is therefore remote! I am afraid some kanganies have helped to create this impression by coming over here and making wild assertions that a lot of the Superintendents have gone to the front. One can imagine how stories like this, however true they may have been when they reached the ears of the first listener, are enlarged upon and developed, until they become absolutely fictitious.

At any rate there is some consolation in the fact that, if the War has had this effect on recruiting, it has done so at a time when under ordinary circumstances there would be a very considerable lull in recruiting on account of the cultivating season; not to mention the present circumstances under which the crops are all in such excellent condition and there has been such an abundance of rain everywhere. Besides advertising freely in all the villages myself, I have checked the exertions in this respect on the part of the Agent and his staff and I am glad to be able to report that they have been confirmed where I have made enquiries regarding them.

Yours faithfully,

E. V. B. LEVING,

Assistant Commissioner.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.—Recruiting Prospects for December and January, 1915.

B.—Bad.	F.—Fair.	G.—Good.	MADURA CIRCLE:—	ARCOT & TELUGU CIRCLES:	Cuddalore Taluk B
HEAD QUARTER	Mannargudi Taluk F	Tiruthurai- poondi Taluk F	Udumalpet Taluk G	Chittoor Agency.	Gingee " B
CIRCLE:—	Tanjore " F		Pollachi " G	Chittoor Taluk F	Kallakurichi " B
Manaparai Agency.	Papanasam " F	SALEM CIRCLE:—	Dindigul Agency.	Kalastry " F	Tindivanam " B
	Kumbakonam " F		Dindigul Taluk G	Palamanari " F	Tirukovilur " B
	Mayaveram " F	Salem Agency.	Palni " G	Vayalpad " F	Virudachalam " B
	Shiyali " F	Salem Town " F	Madura Agency.	Madanapalli " F	Jammalamadugu " B
Kulitalai Taluk F	Palghat Agency.	Salem " G	Madura Taluk F	Punganur Taluk F	Prodatur " G
Kolatur " F	Palghat Taluk F	Omajur Taluk G	Maloor " F	Chendragiri " F	Badvel " B
Keeranur " F		Trichengode " G	Periakulam " B	Arcoot N. " G	Sidout " G
Thirumayam " F	Karur Agency.	Uttangarai " G	Nilacottai " F	Gudiyatam " F	Pullampet " G
Melur " F		Hosur " G	Tirumangalam " F	Vellore " F	Royachoty " G
Puducottah Agency.	Karur Taluk F	Krishnagiri " G	Ramnad " B	Polur " F	Pulivendla " B
Alangudi Taluk G	Dharapuram " F	Dharmapuri " G	Tirupuvanam Taluk F	Arni " F	Kamalapuram " B
Kolatur " G	Erode Agency.	Atur Agency " G	Tirupathur " F	Wandiwash " F	Guntur " F
Tiruman- galam " G	Erode Taluk F	Namakal Agency.	Sivaganga " F	Tiruvannamalai Taluk F	Narasarowpet " G
Cannanore Agency.	Tiruppur " F	Namakal Taluk G	Manamadurai " B	Arkonam Agency.	Satnapalli " F
	Bhavani " F	Musiri Agency.	Sathur " B	Arkonam Taluk B	Bapatla " G
Cherakal Taluk G	Gopiebeti- poliam " F	Musiri Taluk G	Srivilliputhur " B	Walsaja " B	Tennalay " G
Kottayam " G	Avanasy " F	Kulitalai " G	Mudukolathur " B	Cheyar " B	Anantapur " F
Knrumbanad " G	Dharapuram " F	Perambalur " G	Tiruvadanai " B	Puthur " B	Dharmavaram " F
Calicut " G	Udumalpet " F	Tirupatur Agency.	Tinnevely Agency.	Tiruvallur " B	Kadiri " F
Eranad " G	Pollachi " F	Tirupatur Taluk B	Ambassamudram Taluk G	Ponneri " B	Gooty " F
Waluvanad " G	Kollegal " F	Kanhundi " F	Tenkasi " G	Chingleput Agency.	Tadpatri " F
Ponnani " G	Tanjore Agency.	Nanjangud Agency.	Tinnevely " F	Chingleput Taluk F	Kaliyandrug " B
Palghat " G	Tanjore Taluk F	Nanjangud Taluk G	Nanguneri " F	Conjeevaram " F	Uruvakkonda " B
Wynaad " G	Kumbakonam " F	Chamrajanagar " G	Koipatti " F	Madurantakam Taluk F	Bellary " B
Arantangi Agency.	Mannargudi " F	Narasipur " G	Sriyakkuntam " F	Saidapet " F	Royadrag " F
Arantangi Taluk F	Nannilam " F	Gundlupet " G	Tiruchendur " F	Arcoot S. " B	Hospet " F
Pattucottai " F	Negapatam " F	Yellandur " G	Sankarancoil " F	Villupuram " B	Adoni " F
Tiruthurai- poondi " F	Papanasam " F	Nagamangala " G	Trivandrum " F	Chindambaram Taluk B	Kurnool " B
Nannilam " F	Pattucottai " F	Seringapatam " G			Nandiyal " F
Nagapatam " F	Shiyali " F	Mandya " B			Dhone " F
		French Rocks " B			

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON, Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1914.

COOLEY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1914.										G. TOTAL.									
AGENCIES.					PREVIOUSLY.					NOVEMBER.					TOTAL.				
HEAD QUARTER CIRCLE:—					M.	W.	Ch.	Inft.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Inft.	Total.	M.	W.	Ch.	Inft.	Total.
1.	Cannanore	...	322	25	2	4	353			0	0	0	0	322	25	2	4	353	
2.	Palghat	...	896	51	29	13	979	37	5	3	2	47	923	56	32	15	1,026		
3.	Erode	...	1,113	289	150	82	1,634	75	27	2	7	111	1,188	316	152	89	1,745		
4.	Karur	...	746	167	94	49	1,056	12	3	3	2	20	758	170	97	51	1,076		
5.	Trichinopoly	...	15,301	5,053	3,829	1,754	25,937	662	190	125	68	1,045	15,963	5,243	3,954	1,822	26,980		
6.	Manaparai	...	750	249	164	68	1,231	57	18	16	4	95	807	267	180	72	1,326		
7.	Tanjore	...	1,739	474	178	169	2,560	93	14	8	5	120	1,832	488	186	174	2,580		
8.	Ammapatnam	...	140	47	22	8	217		Closed				140	47	22	8	217		
9.	Arantangi	...	281	79	81	40	481	104	21	36	6	167	385	100	117	46	648		
10.	Puducottah	...	1,006	282	268	135	1,691	100	24	24	13	161	1,106	306	292	148	1,852		
MADURA CIRCLE:—																			
11.	Dindigul	...	1,288	374	144	92	1,898	105	24	6	5	140	1,393	398	150	97	2,038		
12.	Madura	...	3,282	1,163	818	439	5,702	139	31	16	5	191	3,421	1,194	834	444	5,893		
13.	Pamban	...	37	14	6	1	58		Closed				37	14	6	1	58		
14.	Mandapam	...	2,017	909	633	322	3,881	106	48	26	19	199	2,123	957	659	341	4,080		
15.	Tinnevely	...	1,050	222	195	81	1,548	79	14	6	6	105	1,129	236	201	87	1,653		
16.	Tataparai	...	1,194	414	184	145	1,937	33	10	2	7	52	1,227	424	186	152	1,961		
17.	Tondi	...	307	107	52	36	502	12	5	0	0	17	319	112	52	36	516		
SALEM CIRCLE:—																			
18.	Nanjangud	...	246	91	42	19	398	32	11	5	2	50	278	102	47	21	444		
19.	Dharmapuri	...	137	41	18	15	211	3	1	0	0	4	140	42	18	15	211		
20.	Kuppam	...	106	20	11	8	145	2	1	1	0	4	108	21	12	8	146		
21.	Tirupatur	...	32	15	0	2	49	0	0	0	0	0	32	15	0	2	49		
22.	Salem	...	751	220	115	91	1,177	25	6	3	2	36	776	226	118	93	1,213		
23.	Atur	...	208	68	36	31	343	0	0	0	0	0	208	68	36	31	343		
24.	Namakal	...	484	159	124	74	821	9	4	3	1	17	473	163	127	75	838		
25.	Turaiyur	...	342	157	113	82	694	20	14	7	8	49	362	171	120	90	743		
26.	Musiri	...	443	182	146	92	863	13	4	3	1	21	456	186	149	93	884		
ARCOT CIRCLE:—																			
27.	Katpadi	...	1,529	527	218	137	2,411	53	22	12	5	92	1,582	549	230	142	2,563		
28.	Arkonam	...	986	325	104	122	1,537	24	5	3	4	36	1,010	330	107	126	1,573		
29.	Chingleput	...	1,082	338	149	69	1,638	43	12	0	1	56	1,125	350	149	70	1,694		
30.	Villupuram	...	1,861	560	208	207	2,836	38	8	6	1	53	1,899	568	214	208	2,899		
TELUGU CIRCLE:—																			
31.	Guntakal	...	184	58	17	20	279	2	1	1	0	4	186	59	18	20	283		
32.	Cuddapah	...	89	28	8	11	136	0	0	0	0	0	89	28	8	11	136		
33.	Guntur	...	63	16	11	2	92	1	0	0	0	1	64	16	11	2	92		
34.	Nellore	...	16	5	2	2	25		Closed				16	5	2	2	25		
35.	Chittoor	...	11	12	1	2	26		Transporting Agency.				11	12	1	2	26		
40,009 12,741 8,172 4,424 65,346 1,879 523 317 174 2,893 41,888 13,264 8,489 4,598 68,239																			

Total number of coolies shipped at the 4 Ports of Tuticorin, Ammapatnam, Tondi and Mandapam as per Government Returns up to 30th November, 1914..... 76,616 | 30th November, 1913..... 115,554

Assistant Commissioner's Camping Report for the month of November, 1914.

Schedule of details of Villages visited.

Date.	Village.	Taluk.	Post Office.	Population.	Condition of Crops.	Rates of Pay.		Recruiting Prospects.	Labour Available.	Further Remarks.
						M.	F.			
1914										
Nov. 25th	Polur	Polur	Polur	8799	Crops, both wet and dry are looking very well owing to timely and not excessive rains.	4	2			It is possible that the present failure of the groundnut crop to meet a good market will result in cottons being available after the paddy harvest.
" 26th	Kastambadi	Arni	Kastambadi	1865		4	2			
" 26th	Kalambur (Alhyabad)	Polur	do	6000		4	2			
" 26th	Bakmarpet	do	Polur	100		4	2			
" 27th	Bemuni	do	do	100		4	2			
	Pittandur	do	do	100		4	2			
	Kurapandi	do	do	100		3.4	1.2			
	Modaiyur	do	Devikapuram	915		4	2.3			
	Devikapuram	Arni	do	2752		4	2			
	Santhavasal	Polur	Santhavasal	1323		6.8	4	Not good	Not at present.	
	Parlavalanamur	do	Polur	300		4	2			
	Minnandangal	do	Santhavasal	75		4	2			
" 28th	Kunnamalai	do	Polur	150		6.8	3.4			
	Kalasapakam	do	Kalasapakam	1658		6	2			
	Puthur Malavady	Tiruvannamalai	Tiruvannamalai	450		6	2			
	Tiruvannamalai	do	do	21244		6	2			

G. S. DUPEN,

Dy. Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Camping Report for the Month of November, 1914.

Schedule of details of Villages visited.

Date.	Village.	Taluk.	Post Office.	Population.	Condition of Crops.	Rates of Pay.		Recruiting Prospects.	Labour Available.	Further Remarks.
						M.	F.			
24-11-14	Kottambady	Attur.	Attur.	700	Good	4 as.	3 as.	Poor.	Very little	
26-11-14	Naduvalur	do	do	7000	"	"	"	"	"	
	Thidavur	do	Thidavur	8000	"	"	"	"	"	
27-11-14	Thalavassal	do	Thalavassal	2000	"	"	"	"	"	
28-11-14	Gangavalli	do	Gangavalli	3000	"	"	"	"	"	
30-11-14	Kandasamy Padur	do	Attur	1000	"	"	"	"	"	
	Thamampatty	do	Thamampatty	4000	"	"	"	"	"	

E. V. B. LEVINGE,

Assistant Commissioner,

Salem.



**PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE
MEETING.**

LABOUR IN SABARAGAMUWA.

GOVERNMENT COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

Hospital Retrenchment.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon held at Kandy, on Friday, the 11th December, at 10-30 a.m.:—

Present:—Mr. Hew Kennedy (Chairman and Secretary, P.A. of Ceylon), Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot, Messrs. C. J. Owen (Chairman, Uda Pussellawa P. A.), Martin M. Smith (Kandy), H. M. Picken (Chairman, Pussellawa P. A.), Chas. Gibbon (Visitor), J. B. Coles (Kandy), William Gibson (Haputale P. A.), A. M. Carmichael (Kelani Valley P. A.), J. R. Barkley (Chairman, Kalutara P. A.), G. Kent Deaker (Passara P. A.), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), R. W. Carmichael (Visitor), J. G. Napier (K. K. and Panwila P. A.), M. L. Wilkins (Ambegamuwa P. A.), C. Goolden (Hon. Secretary, Maskeliya P. A.), S. C. Jones (Kandy Districts, Visitor), A. T. Sydney Smith (Dimbula P. A.), H. J. Temple (Ambawella, Visitor), A. S. Long Price (Kandy), G. F. Farquharson (Kandy), A. J. Hamilton Harding (Chairman, Dimbula P. A.), Wm. Sinclair (Rangalla P. A.), A. W. Warburton-Gray (Kurunegalle P. A.), Alfred H. Kerr (Visitor), C. B. Clay (Rangalla P. A.), T. Gidden (Kandy), J. R. Neale (Kandy), S. P. Blackmore (Ambegamuwa P. A.), Geo. Benzie (Pussellawa P. A.), A. Thorp (Matale P. A.), E. F. Home (Chairman, Kandy Districts, P. A.), Thos. Smith (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary, Pussellawa P. A.), C. D. Hunt (Hon. Secretary, K. K. and Panwila P. A.), G. W. Hunter Blair (Knuckles, Kelebokka and Panwila P. A.), H. B. T. Boucher (Chairman, Rangalla P. A.), W. H. Cooke (Hatton, Visitor), Churton H. Walker (Visitor).—32 Members and 7 Visitors.

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 13th November, 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

Submitted letters and telegrams expressing regret at inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. W. N. Tisdall, J. C. Mitchell, H. G. Eccles, H. B. Daniell, Tom Hyatt, H. F. Laycock, J. Graeme Sinclair, T. L. Villiers,

L. C. Maudsley, J. B. Sidgwick, F. H. Layard, W. de Lemos, J. L. Tancock, H. Inglis and W. R. Westland.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Read correspondence from Kalutara Planters' Association regarding a breach of Planting etiquette.

Resolved:—"That as co-operation amongst planters is most desirable in the matter of interchanging of labour this Committee is of opinion that in all cases the on-taking Superintendent should in the first instance write and ask the paying off Superintendent whether he has any objection to the transaction."

RESERVATION AND LAND SETTLEMENT.

Read letter from Badulla P. A. asking that this matter be deferred till the January Committee Meeting.

Resolved:—"That this request is agreed to."

FRANKED ENVELOPES.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary regretting that Government is unable to agree to the suggestion of the Dimbula P. A. regarding Franking envelopes for circulating amongst members circulars received from Government.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Honorarium to Mr. Carr Hamond.

Resolved:—"That an honorarium of Rs. 375 be made to Mr. C. Hamond for the services he rendered to the Planters' Association."

SIGNATURES ON CHEQUES.

Resolved:—"That only the Chairman's signature on cheques is required and the Banks be advised accordingly."

LABOUR IN SABARAGAMUWA.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 25th November, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor proposes to appoint a Commission, consisting of Mr. R. N. Thaine, Government Agent, Province of Sabaragamuwa, Dr. E. L. Hunt, C.M.G., and two other members to enquire into and report upon the condition of labourers in the planting districts of the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

2. His Excellency desires me to invite your Association to co-operate with Government by nominating a suitable representative to serve on the Commission.

3. I am to add that the Estate Agents' Association has also been requested to nominate a representative.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) M. A. YOUNG
for Colonial Secretary.

Resolved:—"That Mr. G. C. Bliss do represent the Planters' Association of Ceylon on this Commission."

JOSEPH FRASER MEMORIAL.

Read correspondence with London Association and Chairman, Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, regarding a Memorial to the late Mr. Joseph Fraser. Resolved:—"That the Chairman convey the opinion of this Committee to the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce."

INDIAN TROOPS AT THE FRONT.

Read letter from Mr. W. L. Kindersley regarding Mrs. Kindersley's fund to provide warm clothing for Indian troops at the Front. Resolved:—"That the attention of the Planters' One Day Pay Fund be drawn to this Fund."

PLANT PESTS BOARD FOR REVENUE DISTRICT OF KANDY.

Read letter from Government Agent, C. P., re representatives on Plant Pests Board.

VOLUNTEERING.

Read two resolutions from Kotmale Planters' Association relating to Volunteering. Resolved:—"That the Hon'ble the Rural Member be asked to enquire in the Legislative Council what Government propose to do in connection with the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps."

MEDICAL WANTS COMMITTEE.

Read letter from P. C. M. O. :—

Colombo, 26th November, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN,

Planters' Association, Kandy.

DETENTION OF ESTATE LABOURERS IN HOSPITAL.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that considerable retrenchment is necessary in consequence of the war, and it will, I regret to say, be impossible to detain estate coolies in hospital during their total convalescence. I propose to issue instructions to Medical Officers not to retain patients in hospital after they have sufficiently recovered from the ailment for which they were admitted to be able to be looked after by their relatives and friends on the estates. It is my intention to have intimation of the discharge of convalescents to Superintendents of Estates 6 clear days before the date of discharge, with information as to whether the patient requires transport, and I would ask you to request the co-operation of Superintendents in order to ensure the necessary economy during the present crisis.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

(Signed) A. PERRY.

P.C.M.O., & I.G.H.

Resolved:—"That as 85 per cent. of the money accruing to the Medical Wants Committee is subscribed by proprietors the action of the P. C. M. O. is not justifiable and that members of the Medical Wants Committee and the Hon. the Rural Member be requested to take any necessary action and report to this Committee on January 8th."

ESTATE AGENTS' ASSOCIATION.

Read letter from the Estate Agents' Association regarding present method of charging rail freight on rice by measure.

Resolved:—"That this matter be left over for the present."

PRICE OF FOOD STUFFS.

Resolution from Ramboda P. A. re prices of Foodstuffs. Resolved:—"That enquiry be made of the Colonial Secretary whether Government propose to take any action in this matter."

RICE.

Correspondence with Estate Agents' Association regarding (1) Price of rice, (2) Issuing rice by weight or by measure. Resolved:—"That the Secretary, District Planters' Association, put the former enquiry more clearly to them and as replies to the latter have only been received from a few Associations the matter be left over to the next meeting."

CEYLON ASSOCIATION IN LONDON.

Read letter from London Association enclosing correspondence relating to recruiting labour from India for distant lands. Resolved:—"That no action need be taken in this respect."

"PLANTING GAZETTE."

Resolved:—"That articles and letters written over a *nom de plume* be accepted in the "Planting Gazette" provided they are authenticated in the usual way. Resolved:—"That the names of Mr. A. M. Carmichael and F. J. Temple be added to the Committee of the "Planting Gazette."

CEYLON TEA GIFT

Read correspondence with the Ceylon Association in London regarding the Ceylon Tea Gift to the effect that they will receive the gifted tea.

This terminated the business.

HEW KENNEDY,

Chairman and Acting Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

TEA GIFT AND PUBLICITY.

COAST AGENCY CESS RAISED.

Government and Volunteering.

A general meeting of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, as already reported, was held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, the 11th December, 1914. Mr. Hew Kennedy, Chairman and Acting Secretary, presided and the others present were:—Messrs. Wm. Sinclair, Chas. Gibbon, G. C. Bliss, F. R. Bisset, George Benzie, R. W. Carmichael, A. M.

Carmichael, A. Thorp, A. H. Kerr, H. J. Temple, A. D. Gilbert Burnett, W. H. Morrison, A. S. Long Price, G. J. Murray, N. I. Lee, E. W. Keith, F. J. S. Turner, Thomas Smith, P. P. C. Walker, J. R. Neale, C. Ross Wright, J. Baillie, T. A. Pitfield, G. Collins, W. M. Newton, C. Colling, J. F. W. Brockman, Douglas Westland, A. Lee Simpson, Bruce Westland, G. A. Kelly, J. G. Napier, J. S. Richardson, H. C. Armstrong, M. S. Milne, D. C. Mortimer, A. Hamilton Harding, Huntley Wilkinson, W. H. Cooke, C. B. Clay, C. H. Walker, A. W. Warburton Gray, G. W. Hunter Blair, E. F. Home, R. H. Brodie, H. B. f. Boucher, G. C. H. Doudney, G. F. Farquharson, C. D. Hunt, G. H. B. Whale, C. C. du Pre Moore, Stanley Hillman, L. St. George Carey, M. L. Wilkins, A. T. Sydney Smith, W. J. R. Hamilton and R. E. H. Dickinson.

The minutes of the last general meeting as published in the Press were confirmed.

CEYLON TEA GIFT.

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen, before commencing the business of the meeting I like to refer to the question of the Ceylon Tea Gift for one moment. You will remember that at the last meeting of this Association a resolution was passed by which the tea was to be sent to Lord Kitchener and Mr. Winston Churchill for the use of the families of the Naval and Military Forces. This resolution, if adhered to, will necessitate the payment of duty on that tea—a duty which I may say will be equivalent to the value of the tea, or rather the cost of the tea to us in Ceylon. It would be to the detriment of the gift if this duty was charged. I therefore give you notice of a resolution which this morning had been approved of by the Committee, and which I propose to bring up at the annual general meeting of the Planters' Association to be held in February. It will be as follows:—"That the gift of tea be sent to Lord Kitchener and Mr. Winston Churchill for use by them as they think best." I think, gentlemen, the best plan will be to give you notice of this so that you can see the reason for the alteration in the resolution."

PROPOSED CONCERT.

Suggestions have reached the Planters' Association that a concert might well be held on the day of the annual meeting in February, and the proceeds of that concert be devoted entirely to the tea gift. (Hear, hear.) I do not think anything in the form of a special resolution is needed so I did not put it down on the agenda. I am sure you will all support the idea of the concert; and I propose that this concert be held under the auspices of the Planters' Association and the members of all the Volunteer Corps in Ceylon (Applause).

COAST AGENCY CESS, 1915.

The CHAIRMAN said: The first business on the agenda is to fix the rate of the Coast Agency Cess for 1915. The financial resources of the Coast Agency have, to a great extent, diminished from what they were three years ago. There are various reasons for it, reasons which I need not

detail here; but it is now a matter of necessity that further sums should be forthcoming so that we may be enabled to have sufficient money during the months of January and February to carry on the work of the Coast Agency and pay our staff and meet other expenses. The increase in the Cess which has been proposed and resolved in Committee was 10 cents per cultivated acre, making in all 40 cents per cultivated acre, in 1915. This increase will give us approximately Rs. 57,000, and this amount would, in a large measure, be devoted to building up the resources which dwindled during the last three years. I now propose "That the rate of the Coast Agency Cess for 1915 be fixed at 40 cents per cultivated acre, tea and rubber." Coming from the chair the motion needs no seconder.

Mr. CHAS. GIBBON asked if there was going to be any economy in the administration, the office staff and printing, in connection with the Cess.

The CHAIRMAN said that the affairs of the Coast Agency Committee, as regarded finances, were entirely in the hands, or left in the hands, at present of a Sub-Committee which dealt with such matters. It would certainly be referred to the General Committee in January when the estimates would be passed for the year. Every economy would be practised and no lavish expenditure would be allowed.

The motion for the increase of the Cess was then put to the meeting and carried by twelve votes against eight.

CEYLON TEA GIFT FUND.

Mr. CHAS. GIBBON brought up the following motion which stood in his name:—"That it is desirable to publish particulars monthly, in the "Gazette," state of Ceylon Tea Gift Fund for Army and Navy with details, as far as possible up to date, both locally and in the United Kingdom, of donations in kind and money."

He said that there had been so much publicity given to the fact that a million lbs. of tea were going to be sent that he thought it was time that publicity were given to facts. What were the facts? The facts were they tried to ascertain whether a gift would be acceptable in the first instance, and the offer was accepted. In the next place a telegram was put before them and they found that a million lbs of tea were aimed at. That seemed to be the origin of the million lbs. of tea. They were not there now to criticize possibly the action of an absent member. They said, in certain circumstances, "De mortuis nil nisi bonum." and so he would say "De absentis nil nisi bonum." At the same time they should discriminate between the powers of a secretary and chairman. Their secretary had no power, no right, to say that they aimed at a million lbs. of tea, to commit the general public of Ceylon to that. Anyhow they were committed now; and why? Because that million lbs. of tea had been given such publicity that it had become universal knowledge; and, he believed, a list had been included in a Blue Book showing the contributions from different Colonies. A very marked difference appeared in that Blue Book where it was stated that the Gold Coast Government contributed £140,000 sterling against Ceylon's contribution—what was it? (Laughter.) Now it was very

palpable that such publicity having been given to what was unauthorized, publicity should also be given to what was now authorized. They now aimed at a million lbs. of tea and it would take all their while to get it. They should all work with a will and their efforts would be considerably aided if they agreed that publication was desirable. Speaking for himself he would say that it was desirable to publish monthly in the "Gazette" the state of the Tea Gift Fund, and it would also be well if they sent the statements to the general Press of Ceylon. (Hear, hear). They would have to use the discrimination of their Chairman as to how often those communications should be made to the Press. At times very little would be coming in, and at other times there would be a rush; and therefore they would leave it to the discretion of the Chairman to send communications to the Press. At any rate they would be once a month. He did not think that as regarded publication in the "Gazette" there need be any argument and he would therefore not take up their time. He thought that some of them felt it would have been better if Mr. Still had remained in the Island to face the music. They did not wish to go back to the subject; but it was sufficient that they knew what the facts were and they would now work together man to man. Personally he taxed himself Re. 1 an acre, and he hoped others would do likewise. He did not know there were many of them who could give. (A voice: I have none.) Those who had not tea, but who had shares in companies could contribute. They did not realise the experiences the wives and families of their soldiers at the front were going through; and to them how welcome would be the gift of tea. It was difficult to get enthusiastic over tea unless one were a teetotaler, as he was. (Laughter). He did indeed feel enthusiastic over tea. They should give and give until they felt that they were losing something in the giving. Some of them had sons, brothers, who were fighting and shedding their blood. He did not want to appeal to them rhetorically or oratorially, but that was an opportunity for shelling out that million lbs. of tea. There would be no necessity to give in one or two months, but they might spread it over two years. If Lord Kitchener was a true prophet the war was going to last two or three years. He would remind them of the saying "Bis dat qui cito dat," no gives twice who gives quickly.

Mr. G. F. FARQUHARSON seconded.

Mr. M. S. MILNE said he had great pleasure in supporting what fell from Mr. Gibbon because he could not see what possible good could come from suppressing facts about that tea gift. He understood that out of the proposed million lbs. of tea only 120,000 lbs. had been subscribed. He did not know what possible good could come from hiding that fact. They should advertise the matter, and the more publicity they gave to it, and let people know that they wanted more tea, the better. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN said that any cable or communication which came out of the Planters' Association Office the Chairman was entirely responsible for. (Hear, hear.) As regarded the particular cable mentioned by Mr. Gibbon it

had, as far as he knew, never been published in any Ceylon paper although it was copied into the Press; and it may have got into the Home Press subsequent to their meeting in September. All correspondence was submitted to the members and included in the minutes. It, therefore, was quite clear that the cable which they sent was a noncommittal one. It did not commit them to the million lbs. of tea which they were committed to in the eyes of the world. The blame lay elsewhere. As regarded what Mr. Gibbon said with reference to Mr. Still, that in his opinion it would have been better if he remained behind to face the music, he did not understand what Mr. Gibbon meant by it. (Loud applause). He was not aware that there was any music to be faced. He could assure them that he worked in perfect unison with Mr. Still. Mr. Still had never done anything behind his back or without his knowledge. As Mr. Still was away he must ask Mr. Gibbon to ameliorate those remarks. (Loud applause.)

Mr. CHAS. GIBBON said that he had spoken in Latin when he said "De absentibus nil nisi bonum;" but he could not take back what he said and the opinion which he still held, and that was that Mr. Still was not authorized in their name to commit Ceylon to a telegram sent by himself saying that they aimed at a million lbs. of tea. He had dealt very very shortly with the matter and he was sorry the Chairman had taken him to task upon it; but he did not see where he was to blame. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN, then put Mr. Gibbon's motion to the meeting, which was, with the permission of the meeting, slightly amended, instead of the word "Gazette" the words "Planting Gazette and the Press" being substituted. It was carried unanimously.

RECEIPTS UP TO DATE.

The CHAIRMAN announced that they had at present approximately 120,000 lbs. of tea and a sum of about Rs. 12,500.

Mr. H. J. TEMPLE asked how much had been contributed by those interested in London?

The CHAIRMAN said he had not the figures with him.

PRIVATE MEMBERS.

Mr. CHAS. GIBBON had the following motion standing in his name:—

"That it is in the interests of the Association which is the Planters' Association of Ceylon to urge Superintendents (both P. D.'s and S. D.'s) to join as private members, paying their own subscriptions and registering their own names, as voters. (Where Estates pay subscriptions the Proprietors or their Agents can exercise the vote as they choose.)"

With the permission of the Chairman and the gentleman who was to second it, he would withdraw the motion for the present, he said. His objects in bringing that forward were several. It was desirable that they should largely increase the membership of the Association and the interests in the Association. S. D.'s on paying their subscription would be able to attend the general meetings. At their Committee meeting that morning the attendance was comparatively small and that general meeting too was not a big one. He

would therefore wish to defer discussion of the subject till February next. It was possible that it would be met with considerable enthusiasm if only from the point of view of making that Association more a Planters' Association, in which Superintendents and S.D.'s would take a personal interest. Mr. Lee Simpson, who was to second the motion, was not present.

The motion was then withdrawn.

THE GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTEERING.

Mr. CHAS. GIBBON also had the following motion standing in his name:—

"That this Association requests the Rural Member to put a question as to Government's intention regarding the C.P.R.C. and the C.M.R. and whether anything is to be done to make the Corps more popular."

Here again, he said, they had an illustration of the advantages of a large Committee and the disadvantages of a small general meeting. He had been asked to withdraw that resolution, he said, and he did not know it was necessary for him to state why he yielded to persuasion. Most of them were present at the Committee meeting, but he might state that the principal reason why he was asked to withdraw that was that the Committee had a resolution of their own which, to a certain extent, would meet their requirements—that is it would evoke information from Government as to what encouragement was going to be given to the volunteer movement. If they would allow him to withdraw that resolution he believed the Chairman had a resolution from the Committee to put before them.

The CHAIRMAN said it was an amendment and not a resolution.

Mr. CHAS. GIBBON said in that case he would discuss the matter. Would the Chairman, he asked, submit the suggestion for the withdrawal of his resolution to the meeting, and then bring forward the amendment?

The CHAIRMAN remarked that a difficulty arose about a matter of procedure. If Mr. Gibbon withdrew his resolution, or wished to withdraw it, and he put the proposal to the meeting, then no amendment could be brought forward because the amendment would become, *ipso facto*, a resolution. But if Mr. Gibbon submitted his resolution in the ordinary course and proposed to withdraw it in favour of the amendment then the amendment would be right.

Mr. CHAS. GIBBON said he was willing to take any course of action, and formally proposed the motion standing in his name. He did not think, he said, it was necessary to speak to the resolution because there was little doubt in his mind that it would be lost in favour of the amendment.

Mr. HUNTLEY WILKINSON seconded.

Mr. HAMILTON HARDING said that in connection with the resolution he had an amendment to bring forward. He proposed: "That the Hon. the Rural Member be asked to enquire in the Legislative Council what Government proposes to do in connection with the C. P. R. C." (A voice: Why not the C. M. R.?) In that connection he thought it would be unfair—and as planters were fair-minded men he was quite sure his proposal would appeal to them—that

they should in any way thwart the efforts of the Rural Member or in any way say anything but rather support what he proposed to ask in Council. He was quite with the planting community in wishing to know what was the position with regard to that matter—Volunteering generally, and the C.P.R.C., in particular. He did not wish to bring forward any matter of contentious character because at that particular period they should not in any way discuss a matter that was to come up in Council. Therefore he merely brought that amendment forward and asked them to support it.

Mr. G. C. BLISS said that he had great pleasure in seconding the amendment.

Mr. CHAS GIBBON said that if the amendment was carried it would be desirable that a small Committee should be formed to see what questions ought to be put in Council. They should let it be clearly known that what they wanted was information. The Rural Member could possibly extract information as to why there had been so little encouragement given in the past; why things were hanging fire now, and what they were prepared to do in the future, definitely. Otherwise the interest in the Volunteer movement would fall off at a time when England was complaining of a shortage of men to such an extent that even the "Saturday Review," which was anything but a Jingo paper, referred to men not yet enlisted in these terms: "These men are not cowards but they are not alert; they prefer to 'wait and see.' A defeat at the front or a raid on the East Coast would bring them in willingly enough—but that will not do. What England needs is to prevent a defeat or a raid, to beat Germany in Germany, not to repel her in England. And now that recruiting has broken down, we should put the nation in arms by law. The nation is ripe for it." Now, that was a sober paper, the "Saturday Review." He would quote an extract from "Punch" which was really as marvellous. It was marvellous, the high tone which, during the past two or three months, had characterized it.

What if tomorrow through the land there runs

This message for an everlasting strain?—

"England expected each of all her sons

To do his duty—but she looked in vain;

Now she demands, by order sharp and swift,

What should have been a gift."

For so it must be, if her manhood fail

To stand by England in her deadly need:

If still her wounds are but an idle tale

The word must issue which shall make you heed;

And they who left her passionate pleas unheard

Will have to hear that word.

And, losing your free choice, you also lose

Your right to rank, on Memory's shining scrolls,

With those, your comrades, who made haste to choose

The willing service asked of loyal souls;

From all who gave such tribute of the heart

Your name will stand apart.

I think you cannot know what mead of shame

Shall be their certain portion who pursue

Pleasure "as usual" while their country's claim

Is answered only by the gallant few.

Come, then, betimes, and on her altar lay

Your sacrifice today!

Mr. GIBBON concluded: "Gentlemen, we don't need that appeal so much, but I claim that Government needs to take that appeal to heart." (Loud applause.)

THE C. M. R.

The CHAIRMAN said that one question raised now was why the C.M.R. were not included in that motion? The answer to that was very clear. The C.M.R. had not asked them to advance their cause. They must remember that the C.M.R., for the present, were in Camp in Colombo, and the officers were all busy down there, and no doubt some difficulty would be experienced by them in getting away to attend a meeting of their General Committee. They would have another meeting next month and if the Officer Commanding the C.M.R. approached the Committee, no doubt, they would receive just as much consideration as the C.P.R.C. That was the first step and it was a firm step. He thought that question had got to be answered lest some doubt be left in their minds as to why the C.M.R. were not included in the amendment. He would now put the amendment to the meeting.

The amendment was carried *nem con.*

The resolution was lost.

CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY.

Mr. CHAS. GIBBON brought up the following motion which stood in his name: "That this Association does not consider it desirable that the Chair and the Secretaryship should be held coincidentally by the same man; and that the present anomalous position not be quoted as a precedent."

That seemed, he said, rather an invidious resolution because they always knew that their Chairman had risen grandly to the occasion. They all knew that. (Applause.) He was doing the work of a Trojan and trying to do the work of two men which, however, was a very hard task. But that should not be quoted as a precedent. They were told that there was a precedent in 1905 when Mr. Alex. Philip died. But they should remember that Mr. Alex. Philip died rather suddenly. Many of them, his personal friends, even, did not know at the time that he was ill. Now Mr. Edgar Turner happened to be their Chairman that year and he also took up the Secretaryship. He worked and revolutionised the Association. Things were now different. They were now in a very critical time, and what they said was that they required the abilities of two men—the abilities of their Chairman, who held an honorary position, and the duties of a paid Secretary. He was not reflecting in the slightest degree on any one, but he only asked that they should not lay down that as a precedent for the future because there was quite as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it; and had it been widely made known there were men possibly in the Island ready to take up the Secretaryship that was vacant. He did not wish to enter into any criticism further. As he had already mentioned he hoped that would not be quoted in future as a precedent. He hoped someone would second the resolution for the dignity of the Association.

The CHAIRMAN (after a pause): Have you asked anyone to second your resolution?

Mr. CHAS. GIBBON: I asked a gentleman and he refused. (Laughter.)

There being no seconder the motion was withdrawn by Mr. Gibbon; and the meeting was brought to a close.



AMBEGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at the Adam's Peak Hotel, on Friday, 27th November, at 2 p.m.

Present:—Messrs. S. P. Blackmore, H. C. Bryett, H. Gordon, C. G. Spiller, W. J. Mason, F. J. Fernando, R. Bennet, H. L. Blacklaw, S. H. Grigg, J. S. Lovell, M. L. Wilkins, R. E. H. Dickinson, D. A. Robertson, E. Ware, C. B. Coleman, B. Gibbon, C. R. Robson (visitor and O. Balean (Chairman and Hon. Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said that owing to Mr. R. A. Senior White having left the district they had lost their Hon. Secretary, and that he proposed doing the work till the end of the year.

PLANTERS' ONE DAY PAY SCHEME.

This was reported to be receiving excellent support in the district.

CEYLON TEA GIFT.

After some discussion, it was resolved to request the Parent Association to reconsider its decision not to publish subscriptions to the tea fund and to have the same published fully and frequently in view of the poor support to date.

ANOTHER J. P. WANTED.

Mr. BRYETT pointed out how scattered the district was, and the difficulty of getting anything signed before a J. P. He did not want a J. P., U. P. M., but a J. P., and it was resolved to write to the Government Agent on the subject.

PRICE OF COOLY FOOD STUFFS.

Messrs. FERNANDO and DICKINSON submitted lists shewing the prices of the different food stuffs at various caddies in the district. It was pointed out that the figures varied considerably and that they were evidently fixed without relation to the actual cost to the caddie-keeper. Coolies, apparently, were charged higher rates than the more responsible members of the general public.

It was resolved to write the G. A., pointing out these facts, and to request him to move in the matter at Hatton and Nawalapitiya.

UNIFORM PRICE OF RICE IN THE DISTRICT.

This was introduced by Mr. BRYETT, but the meeting came to the conclusion that the idea was impracticable. Under this heading was also considered correspondence

from the Estate Agents' Association as the price at which rice should be issued to coolies. The meeting considered that it was impossible to fix the price of rice, and that it should be left to the experience of local conditions of each superintendent.

THE CEYLON TEA GIFT.

We make no apology for returning to this subject, the less so that it has recently awakened an interest which spells promise for the future. Glancing through the minutes of the latest District Association Meetings, we have been struck by the unanimity of opinion as to the methods most suited to the realisation of Ceylon's gift of tea. From one and all comes the demand for full publicity, and the Secretary of the Parent Association has received many letters voicing the sentiments of the various districts. This publicity has now been sanctioned. At the General Meeting of the Planters' Association, held on the 11th of December, it was decided to reveal what had hitherto been kept secret, and from time to time our readers will be able to acquaint themselves with the progress of the gift. Let us hope that the interest excited by the perusal of the figures will not stop short at the perusal, but lead to the dipping of many hands in many pockets and a further aggrandisement of the fund.

One item in the figures published elsewhere gives us particular satisfaction. We refer to the contribution of Rs. 1,432-31 from the Planters' One Day Pay Fund, for November. If it be true, as most people seem to think, that the full light of day will have a forcing influence upon the growth of the gift, we shall expect to receive a rapidly increasing amount with each succeeding month; nay, more we shall hope to see the whole resources of this fund diverted to the fulfilment of (we must repeat the expression even though it nauseates) our honour. Twelve thousand rupees subscribed monthly for a year will give us rather more than a third of the amount we have in view; and, although we do not withhold our sympathy from the many deserving propositions before us, we must remind every Ceylon Planter that his first and main consideration should be the Tea Gift, his next the Tea Gift, and the last and most important of all—The Tea Gift. We trust that the gentleman, who wrote to a local paper promising a further donation on the publication of full particulars, will not forget that promise; we trust too, that many others will be actuated by a like generosity. *Bis dat qui cito dat* is an excellent aphorism, but in this particular connection the man who gives twice is a still more worthy individual.

At the General Meeting last month, our Chairman gave notice of a resolution which he is to bring forward at the annual meeting in February. This resolution has for its object the reversal of a decision which runs counter to the original proposals in connection with the Tea Gift. So much chopping and changing about may cause a certain amount of irritation in some quarters, but when our readers are informed that the question of the payment of duty hangs more or less on the passing of the Chairman's resolution, the passage is an assured fact. It is proposed to revert to the initial idea and give the tea to Lord Kitchener for the purposes of the troops in the field. It is never wise to be

sure of anything, but we are practically certain that if the gift is so distributed, we shall be free from the compulsion to pay duty, whilst if we allot it to the wives and dependants of the troops we shall wander into such a maze of red tape that the realisation of our wishes will become next door to an impossibility. When we were told by Mr. George Farquharson that the tea forwarded to the first Ceylon Contingent in 1900 never reached the Contingent, we were inclined to think that any tea we send now would meet a like fate; but we must not forget that during the Boer War Lord Kitchener was engaged in field operations, whilst now he is in charge of the home organisation. Why not leave it to him? It will not add very perceptibly to his already many burdens.

And now a word or two as to future procedure. A sub-committee has in hand the promotion of both a concert and a dance to be held in Kandy on the dates surrounding the Annual Meeting in February. It is hoped that all who can will make a point of attending that meeting, but those who find themselves unable to attend need not be prevented from purchasing tickets, indeed someone in each district will be asked to assist in the sale of tickets. If the Colombo Town Guard could raise over seven thousand rupees in a single night surely we can do better in two: Let us do our best to make the February Meeting a memorable one.

We are looking too, to the Ceylon ladies for assistance. We will not suggest the lines of that assistance: but Mr. William Gibson's appeal for a motor ambulance has proved that many mules make a muckle: and if the ladies of Ceylon will only put their clever heads together they are sure to devise some scheme as delightful as themselves, and one that will receive every support from the Planters of Ceylon.

ROADS.

Inter-district road work having all been completed the Hon. Secretary was directed to sign the schedule and apply for the money.

The report of the road vigilance sub-Committee was considered and it was resolved:—

(a) That the attention of the Chairman of the Provincial Road Committee be drawn to the fact that an assessment for storm damages on the Norton-Carolina road had been made and that such an assessment had never been made before. Further, that though the damage was known at the time the 1914 estimates were drawn up the amount was not included and that it had been passed without ever having been submitted to the local Committee.

DANGEROUS LEVEL CROSSINGS.

(b) To write the Manager, C. G. R., drawing his attention to the fact that the gates at the three level crossings between Hatton and Talawakellie are constantly left close at night without reference to traffic and the lamps left unlit, thus making the crossings most dangerous also to ask for information as to what the C. G. R. regulations are as to the working and lighting of level crossings.

That the application of Mr. H. M. Sim to Government to run his motor lorries over the Ambegamuwa road and the Nawalapitiya-Gampola road be strongly supported.

TELEPHONES.

This subject was again brought up and Mr. H. C. Bryett asked for information stating that the district was one of the few now in Ceylon without telephones.

The CHAIRMAN gave the information gathered on the subject at the beginning of the year and stated that the war had rather upset schemes like this. It was decided to write the Superintendent of Traffic, Ceylon Telegraph and Telephone Department asking whether the offer of 13th May still holds good and if so to go further into the matter.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARIES.

A letter *re* the inspection of Estate Hospitals by the P. C. M. O. requesting a list of same was read. It was decided to point out that no estates in the district had hospitals but that there were dispensaries on Carolina, Gallawattie, Vellai Oya, and Templestowe and that these names, if required, be sent in.

The CHAIRMAN said that he did not propose submitting any report on the Nawalapitiya Hospital but that he thought they would like to know that after years of waiting and much trouble the new wards at Nawalapitiya hospital were practically finished. The furniture was on the spot and the wards should be ready for occupation by the end of the year. There was a good stock of medicines in the hospital but every economy had to be practised as it was not known when the new supply would arrive from Home. There were only 52 patients in hospital, compared with almost double the number last year. This did not mean that there was less sickness than last year, but that more coolies were turned away and only the most deserving cases detained in hospital. He believed there was to be a very large saving made on the Medical Expenditure over the whole Island—about Rs. 1,000,000. He did not know how far, if at all, they would share in this saving under the "Medical Rebate." That should be watched, but if they were to share then he thought that they would all prefer fuller treatment for their coolies rather than a refund.

Mr Blacklaw's report on the Watawela Dispensary was read, and in connection with this it was resolved to write the P.C.M.O. regretting that two wards had not been built and the old dispensary continued in use rather than a new dispensary, as at present sick coolies beyond Watawela had to be carried to Glencairn hospital—a matter of some 16 miles by road.

A resolution by Mr. Blacklaw *re* the attendance of members of Committee was not seconded.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. Wilkins.

BADULLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Badulla Planters' Association was held in the new Town Hall, Badulla, on December 15th, preceded by a Committee meeting. The Chairman Mr. Gatehouse, presided, and those present at the general

meeting were:—Messrs. J. W. Balfour-Paul, James Duncan, T. G. Elliott, A. E. Peter, J. W. Scott, H. St. G. Carey, R. Macdonald Sutor, C. W. Beattie, C. F. Way, K. Sentence Smith, W. J. Forbes, C. J. Adamthwaite, Mudaliyar A. I. Jainu Deen, K. Jainu Deen (jr.), L. Archdale, N. Stewart, R. B. Jamieson, H. W. Waters, A. Gilbert, A. Balfour, T. G. Sim, Jack Rae, H. G. Cornish, J. Leslie Henderson, Bernard Strachan (acting Chairman, Passara P. A.) and Wilfred Rettie (Hon. Secretary.)

THE RICE, PAY AND LABOUR RESOLUTIONS.

The working of the resolutions relative to rice, payment of coolies and employment of labour, passed at the last general meeting, came up for discussion.

It was quickly decided that the clauses affecting Rice and Pay were too drastic, and that both short rice and half pay were no longer necessary. On the subject of the employment of labour, however, there was a considerable divergence of opinion.

The Chairman, in summing up, said they had now had a full expression of opinion from members and each must decide how he would vote. He personally considered the resolution regarding labour a sound and necessary one. He would not, however, counsel its adoption unless there was unanimity in the matter. He proposed that the Passara Labour Federation Rules be adopted; that the Committee appointed at the previous meeting deal with any disputes; that a circular be sent to each member asking his adherence to the rule; that in the event of 80 per cent. of the acreage supporting, the rule be adopted.

On the motion being put to the Meeting, all members, with one exception, signified their approval.

ELECTION OF P. R. C. MEMBER.

Mr. R. Gatehouse was re-elected.

RETRENCHMENT.

Mr. WATERS, in proposing "(1) that this association is strongly opposed to the Government policy of reducing road expenditure for the coming year, and that the Planting Member in Council be asked by the Parent Association to make representations to Government on the subject; and (2) that a copy of this resolution be circulated among all District P. A.'s and their support solicited;" said the matter was one of paramount importance, not only to the District, but to the whole Island. Of the 4,000 miles of road in Ceylon, roughly 3,000 were metalled, and Government had admitted that the annual grants were barely sufficient for their upkeep. The result of retrenchment in this direction was obvious to all. Taking the outlet they were mainly interested in—the Badulla-Bandarawella Road—he had received reliable information that the sum expended in 1914 would be reduced by one-fifth, or 20 per cent. He understood Government proposed to reduce pay by 10 per cent. Putting this against the estimate, there would be a net reduction of only 10 per cent. Would labour work at these rates, and was it possible to maintain the roads in even fair order?

It had been given out that the curtailing of manuring programmes would mean less traffic. This was an excuse. He maintained that retrenchment in this direction could not be defended, and was unjustified.

Mr. SUTOR seconded.

Mr. PETER, in supporting, said he understood from a fairly reliable source that there was no intention to break metal for next year's laying on the Badulla-Bandarawella road. It took a year to break the metal necessary for this road, which meant that nothing would be done beyond the repairing of bad patches. The metal laid during 1914 would therefore have to carry two years' traffic, an impossible state of affairs.

The CHAIRMAN said he had little doubt every District Association in the island would take up the question immediately, as they would all be affected. The matter brooked no delay. He was sure they would have the support of every one at Kandy.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter was read from the Chairman and Acting Secretary P. A. of Ceylon, covering a resolution relative to the price of foodstuffs, sent in by the Ramboda P. A.

The HON. SECRETARY said he would be glad to forward particulars of specific cases to Kandy if members would be good enough to send them to him.

A letter from the Parent P. A., embodying extracts from correspondence with the Estate Agents' Association, regarding rice was submitted.

The meeting did not favour the idea of fixing a monthly uniform rate, as it was considered impracticable.

Mr. James Duncan wrote regarding the advantages of dealing with rice by weight.

It was decided to forward a copy of the letter to Kandy.

A letter was read from the G.A. of Uva (in reply to a letter from the Association) expressing his willingness to give a standing order to notify the Press of the existence of serious infectious disease in the Province. The Association approved the suggestion.

LIQUID FUEL.

The HON. SECRETARY announced that the second 8,000 gallon storage tank had now been erected at the Bandarawella Installation. He had been unable to elicit any information regarding the new tank waggons for the railway, promised at the beginning of the year.

The CHAIRMAN said that unless immediate steps were taken to guarantee supplies, the situation was likely to become very acute in 1915. The agitation carried out earlier in the year had been dropped for no apparent reason. Government advanced the argument that the present number of waggons was sufficient to meet the average monthly requirements of the island. This was obviously unsound. He proposed that the matter be referred to the Parent Association.

Mr. DUNCAN suggested that the Hon. Secretary should also bring the subject, as strongly as possible, to the notice

of the Estate Agents' Association. They were in a position to take immediate action.

Both proposals were put to the meeting and carried.

KNUCKLES, KELEBOKKA AND PANWILA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held in the P.W.D. Bungalow at Madulkelle on Thursday December 17th, at 2 p.m. Present Messrs. T. Y. Wright (Chairman), J. G. Napier, G. W. Hunter Blair, J. Hemsted, E. C. Scott, R. C. Nailor, G. Mackwood, E. R. Cox, H. Rhode, P. Bedingfield and C. D. Hunt (Hon. Secretary).

TELEPHONES.

The CHAIRMAN introduced the matter and it was decided to leave the question of altering the subscription over until next year, and to agree to the proposal of the Rambodalla Association as to payment to Government of fee for use of the junction line.

KANDY DISTRICT P. A. RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved that this Association support the resolution with regard to asking Government for extra wards in the Kandy Hospital, but while being in favour of Mr. J. B. Coles's resolution regarding a nursing home request more details as to the general scheme before making any pronouncement.

Resolutions from Ramboda and Nuwara Eliya Planters' Association were discussed but as both had already come up at the Parent Association meetings, were not supported, any member having any complaint as regards over-charge of foodstuff to his coolies being asked to communicate with the Secretary.

PLANT PEST BOARD.

It was unanimously resolved to re-nominate Mr. W. Sinclair.

ONE DAY PAY FUND.

Figures were given of amount subscribed in the District.

ROADS.

Letter was read from the Colonial Secretary advising Government's inability to take over the grant-in-aid portion of cart road from Kellebokka to Kabragalla. The Secretary was instructed to write the D. E. with regard to the dangerous holes left on the main road where widening operations have been carried out and since discontinued and also to write the P. E. for figures as to amount of assessment spent for year on the grant-in-aid portion of road.

COST OF RICE TO COOLIES.

The circular from the Estate Agents' Association was read, and resolved:—"That this Association are unable to give any information to the Estate Agents' Association, who have means at their disposal of ascertaining the figures they require, and that the issue of rice by weight is not feasible.

INFANT MORTALITY.

As requested at the last meeting Mr. Napier had made enquiries re procuring services of a mid-wife for the district and gave particulars to the meeting. It was resolved that the hospital visitor confer with the medical officer and report to the next meeting.

HOSPITAL VISITOR.

Proposed by Mr. HUNT and seconded by Mr. HUNTER BLAIR that Mr. Napier be appointed to act as hospital visitor in place of Mr. Morley, which was carried.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Proposed by Mr. RHODE and seconded by Mr. REEVES that Mr. Hunter Blair do write the annual report in conjunction with the Chairman and Secretary. On the proposal of Mr. BEDINGFIELD seconded by Mr. NAPIER it was resolved to request Mr. A. D. Donald to also contribute.

PAPERS LAID ON TABLE.

Prince of Wales's Fund list, St. John Ambulance Fund list, list of seeds procurable at Peradeniya, Ceylon Tea Gift list, and the official estimates for the coming season.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

C. D. HUNT,
Hon. Secretary.

MATALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Matala Planters' Association was held on Saturday, December 12th, at the Borron Hall, Matala, Mr. H. S. Cameron presiding. The following members were present:—Messrs. A. Thorp, J. Taylor, W. H. Fitzpatrick, W. E. Taylor, T. A. Pitfield, C. Pern, D. A. Steele, J. S. M. Arnold, J. L. Hayden, R. Gorton, E. M. Biggs, J. A. M. Bond, and J. F. W. Brockman (Hon. Secretary), Mr. G. W. Lightfoot (visitor). A Committee meeting preceded the general meeting.

THE LATE COLONEL GORDON REEVES.

The following letter from Mr. F. L. Reeves was read.
Dear Mr. Brockman, very many thanks for your kind message of sympathy from the members of the Matala P.A. Please convey my best thanks and that of all my family to the members of the Association for their kind message and appreciation of my dear father.

Yours Sincerely,
F. L. REEVES.

TRAIN SERVICE.

A letter was read from the Manager of the C. G. R. on the subject of making a connection between the train which departs from Kandy at 5 p.m. and the Colombo train which arrives at Kandy at 5-25 p.m.

The Hon. SECRETARY was instructed to thank the General Manager for his letter, and to make the following remarks: "While thanking you for your letter, and noting with satisfaction that you intend in due course to connect the 2-15 p.m. from Colombo, and the 1-15 p.m. from Nanu Oya with Matala, may we ask about when this connection is likely to take place?"

The letter referred to is as follows:—

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office,
Colombo, November 5th, 1914.

The Hon. SECRETARY,
Matala Planters' Association.
Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 25th September last, I have the honour to state that at the present time we are unable to make a connection as desired from Kandy off the 2-15 p.m. train from Colombo owing to restricted running on the Matala line after dark.

Connections will however be given in due course to Matala off both the 2-15 p.m. train from Colombo and the 1-15 p.m. train from Nanu Oya.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) J. M. ORKNEY,
for General Manager.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

The CHAIRMAN moved that a vote of thanks was due to the Postmaster-General for the opening of the Ukuwella Telegraph Office. Mr. TAYLOR seconded this, and it was carried unanimously.

TELEPHONES.

Mr. BOND, the Hon. Secretary of the Telephone Committee, reported the progress of the scheme. He stated that circulars giving definite information as to cost, etc., were sent to all estates who approved of the Matala Telephone Scheme; and that now nothing more remained to be done except for estates who had decided to subscribe to the system to inform him to this effect. When this was done he would be in a position to ask the Telephone Department of the Post Office to begin the work.

ROADS.

Mr. BOND wished to call the attention of the District Engineer to the dangerous open culvert—without any parapet walls—at the bend of the North Road, on the Elwella side of the Warriapolla S. D.'s bungalow.

Mr. THORP also had a complaint to make about the way the new marking stones for culverts were being erected along the North Road. He said the marking stones were placed so near the road track as to be almost an obstacle to traffic when two vehicles happened to be passing each other at these particular places.

Mr. PITFIELD had also a complaint to make. He stated that there were some bad earth slips on the Palapatwella-Galawella Road, and he considered that the road should be widened, if possible, where these slips had occurred, as the heaped earth on the off side of the road restricted the track.

It was resolved that the District Engineer should be written to on the subject.

KANDY HOSPITAL SCHEME.

The Kandy Hospital scheme came up for discussion. Several members expressing their views. Finally Mr. BOND proposed, and Mr. BIGGS seconded, the following resolution: That the meeting support the first part of the Kandy Hospital Scheme, and that Government be requested to erect at least six additional paying wards to the Kandy Hospital.

This resolution was adopted unanimously.

The second part of the resolution with regard to the nursing home was then put to the meeting, and Mr. TAYLOR proposed, and Mr. GORTON seconded, that the present time was unpropitious owing to the many calls on the public, but that the proposed scheme was an excellent one and could be brought up again later.

The following is the correspondence on the subject:—

The Hon. SECRETARY,

Matale Planters' Association.

DEAR SIR,

At a general meeting of the above Association held on November 7th the following resolutions were passed, and I have been asked to forward them to you for the consideration and support of your Association:—

RESOLUTION I HOSPITAL.

That this Committee request Government to erect at least six additional paying wards to the Kandy hospital, as the present accommodation is totally insufficient for the large number of planters in the district surrounding Kandy. Specific cases are forthcoming showing that on many occasions in the past, the present accommodation has been insufficient.

RESOLUTION II. NURSING HOME.

That Mr. J. B. Coles's proposal to start a nursing home in Kandy be sent to the surrounding District Associations to be brought up at their next meeting and enquire what support be given to this scheme by their Colombo Agents, as well as from private individuals in the districts.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) S. R. HAMER,

Hon. Secretary, Kandy District P. A.

War Fund lists were circulated round the room; and a discussion took place over the "Ceylon Tea Gift."

PRICE OF RICE.

A letter was read from the Secretary P. A. of Ceylon on the subject of the price at which rice should be issued to coolies. The meeting was of the opinion that the purchasing and issuing of rice by weight would be an excellent scheme, and strongly supported the idea.

The second part of the letter did not meet with approval, as it was considered impossible to fix district rates for rice monthly.

MORAWAK KORALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE MOTOR MAIL SERVICE.

A general meeting of the above Association was held at Deniyaya Resthouse at 9 a.m. on Saturday, the 28th November.

Present: Messrs. W. A. Elwell, M. S. Furlong, E. C. Anderson, Chas. B. Collisson, D. M. Rajapaksa, T. W. Oliver, and W. M. Wade-Gery (Chairman and Hon. Secretary.)

ROADS.

Read letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary re the benching of dangerous corners and providing of crossing places on the Deniyaya-Hayes Road.

MOTOR MAIL SERVICE.

All members complained regarding the late arrival of the mails at Deniyaya post office. It was remarked that the late arrival of the mail was almost a daily occurrence, and that it was steadily getting worse and worse. There was general dissatisfaction among all communities regarding the charge made for passengers. Second-class fares were being demanded from third-class passengers even when there were no first or second-class passengers travelling.

One member produced several tickets of passengers who had travelled by the car on the previous day. These passengers had to pay second-class fares although they were third-class passengers. To add to this, the car had broken down at Morawaka and the passengers had to walk from Morawaka to Deniyaya, a distance of 12 miles, the mail reaching Deniyaya after 9 p.m., when it should have arrived at 1-50 p.m.

It was resolved:—"That the Hon. Secretary do write to the Postmaster-General and enquire whether the full fines were being imposed, and also bring to the notice of the Postmaster-General that fares inconsistent with the fare table were being charged."

RULES.

A Committee consisting of Messrs. E. C. Anderson, T. W. Oliver, and the Chairman was appointed to revise and bring up to date the rules of the Association.

CEYLON PLANTERS' ONE DAY'S PAY FUND.

Read circulars connected with the above. Resolved:—"That the scheme was an excellent one, and that it be strongly supported."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read resolution from the Nuwara Eliya P. A. Resolved:—"That this Association do support the resolution."

Read letter from the Assistant Government Agent, Matara, re nominating a member to serve as a member of the Excise Advisory Committee. Intimated that Mr. M. S. Furlong had been nominated.

Read letter *re* estate hospitals.

Read letter from the Assistant Government Agent, Matara, *re* the Deniyaya Liquor License intimating that should the licensee sell cheap gins, his license will not be renewed for the following year.

This being all the business the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

W. M. WADE-GERY,
Hon. Secretary, M.K.P.A.

MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL QUARTERLY MEETING HELD
AT THE MUNDAKAYAM CLUB, ON SATURDAY,
7TH NOV., 1914, AT 10 A.M.

Present:—Messrs. H. B. Kirk (Chairman), R. Harley, J. J. Murphy, R. Tait, E. Hall, A. W. Ruxton, A. Hamond, H. M. E. Howson and G. West (Hon. Secretary). By proxy: Messrs. J. R. Vincent and W. O. Asher. Visitor: Mr. E. D. Atkins, Peermade Magistrate.

On the proposal of Mr. HARLEY, seconded by Mr. Hall, Mr. H. M. E. Howson was appointed a member of the Committee in place of Mr. Hall who had resigned.

REVISION OF RULES, ETC.

Mr. MURPHY proposed that all subjects of interest in connection with the district may be discussed and resolutions passed thereon at an ordinary general meeting without notice, with the exception of alteration to the rules and regulations regarding labour. All such resolutions passed at a meeting shall be effective, provided always that upon the written request of four members not present or represented at the meeting, the Hon. Secretary shall convene an extraordinary general meeting to consider the said resolution or resolutions within one month from the date of publication in the "Planters' Chronicle" of the proceedings of such meeting, and that the following sub-committee be appointed to revise the rules and submit the same to the next general meeting:—Messrs. J. J. Murphy, J. B. Vincent, H. B. Kirk.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

The question of the erection of a cattle pound at Mundakayam was again brought before the meeting and after some discussion, the Hon. Secretary was requested to write to the Peermade Magistrate and find out the cost of a similar cattle pound at Peermade.

SEPARATE LABOUR COMMISSION SUGGESTION.

With regard to the resolution passed at the last general meeting of the Association that the Hon. Secretary write to the other local Associations and obtain their views as to the formation of a Labour Commission separate from that of the U. P. A. S. I., the Hon. Secretary intimated that he had only received two replies, one from the Central Travancore

Planters' Association and the other from the South Travancore Planters' Association both of which indicated an unfavourable attitude to the proposal. Further discussion on this question was deferred to the next meeting.

Mr. Ashton Hamond was unanimously elected to represent this Association at the forthcoming Sri Mulam Popular Assembly at Trivandrum.

SUGGESTED EUROPEAN CORONER.

The CHAIRMAN reported particulars of a case of suspicious death upon his estate and in view of the casual manner in which the matter had been treated by the local police, he suggested that European Coroner be appointed for this district and stated that he had laid the whole facts of the case, along with his suggestion, before the Commissioner of Police. Mr. HAMOND proposed that the matter be left over until the Chairman received a reply from the Commissioner of Police. Mr. HARLEY and Mr. MURPHY strongly resented the suggested appointment of a Coroner, and the latter proposed the following amendment: "That it was unnecessary to ask Government to appoint a European Coroner." This was seconded by Mr. HARLEY and carried.

The HON. SECRETARY read certain correspondence with regard to the unsatisfactory state of the Kottayam-Mundakayam road and it was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Mr. HAMOND seconded by Mr. MURPHY "That Government be asked to put culverts instead of Irish Drains on the Kottayam-Mundakayam road where the lay of the land lends itself to it."

Consideration was then given to the suggested improvements at the Kodimatha landing stage, Kottayam, and correspondence anent same was read to the meeting. The members were agreed that an improvement in the landing stage facilities was highly necessary and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to lay the matter before Government and to press for something being done as soon as possible.

Reference was made by the CHAIRMAN to certain correspondence which had taken place relative to the Rubber Growers' Association and pointed out that the U.P.A.S.I. was not affiliated to this Association. Various members thought that the United Association should certainly join the Rubber Growers' Association and Mr. MURPHY proposed "That the U.P.A.S.I. should be asked to join the Rubber Growers' Association, the small subscription to be met out of their existing funds and failing their compliance with this request, that this Association should then join." This was seconded by Mr. HAMOND and carried *nem con*.

The CHAIRMAN stated that there was a rumour abroad locally that the Government proposed to remove the present Magistrate's Court from Mundakayam. He pointed out that for many reasons this was to be deplored not only on account of the benefits derived by the community from the presence of the Court at Mundakayam but also on account of its deterrent effect upon crime.

The HON. SECRETARY was asked to write to the Dewan upon the subject.

The Hon. SECRETARY reported that a sum of Rs. 1,276-2-0 had, up to date, been received by him from estates in the district towards the various War and Relief Funds and that he handed this sum to the Mundakayam Magistrate, President of the local War Fund Committee.

Mr. HAMOND intimated that he had met Mr. Richardson who stated that in connection with his endeavours to obtain a tea theft regulation, it would be of considerable assistance to him if the Rubber Theft Regulation were more strictly observed by rubber planters. The Honorary Secretary was thereupon asked to circulate copies of the Rubber Thefts Regulation among the members.

It was decided to hold the annual general meeting of this Association at the Mundakayam Club on Saturday, 16th January, 1915.

H. B. KIRK,

Chairman,

GEORGE WEST,

Hon. Secretary.

RANGALLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

An emergency general meeting of the above Association was held at the Ferndale Drill-shed on Saturday, December 5th, at 9-30 a.m. Present:—Messrs. Wm. Sinclair, Wm. Polson, A. H. Kerr, C. J. Pattenson, R. H. Ellis, R. W. Lindsay-White, C. B. Clay, E. Russell Cox (visitor), and H. B. T. Boucher (Chairman and Hon. Secretary.)

The notice calling the meeting was read. The minutes of the meeting held in October 24th were confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from Kandy District P. A. The resolution *re* Paying Wards was supported. The resolution *re* Nursing Home to be brought up at next meeting. Read letter from Hon. Secretary, K. K. and Panwila P.A. *re* Telephones. Read letter from Messrs. C. A. Hutson & Co. *re* telephone poles, &c. Read letter from Chairman, D. R. C. *re* Minor Road Grants.

ISSUE-PRICE OF RICE.

It was resolved:—"That this Association have decided to appoint a Committee to regulate monthly the price at which rice be issued to coolies in the District."

The resolution from the Ramboda P. A. *re* price of foodstuffs was supported.

PLANT PESTS BOARD.

Mr. William Sinclair was nominated by this Association.—H. B. T. Boucher, Hon. Secretary, Rangalla P.A. December 6th.

SABARAGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of meeting held at the Wace Memorial Hall, Ratnapura, on Saturday, 19th December:—

PRESENT.—Messrs. George Brown (Chairman), J. Stogdon, J. Hawke, J. L. Mackie, W. G. Berry, R. De V. Godfray, A. Craib, R. Brough, C. Watkins Baker, L. F. Watkins Baker, D. T. Angus, H. G. Greig, John Paterson, R. L. Holland, P. S. Bridge, Geo. M. Crabbe, G. D. Hoare, E. Maberly Byrde, H. F. Pearson, D. Robertson, Douglas Mr. D. Berry, R. G. Morris (visitor), and E. C. Villiers, (Honorary Secretary).

LOCAL JURISDICTION.

This was the first item on the Agenda, and a letter was read from the Superintendent of Karawita Estate giving cover to two copies of judgments in connection with coolie cases:—

Karawita Estate,
Ratnapura, 11th November, 1914.

The Hon. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa P. A.,
Balangoda.

DEAR SIR,

I wish to draw your attention to the following and hope you will take the matter up in the P. A. meeting and if possible report it to the next P. A. meeting to be held shortly in Kandy.

The Canarese coolies bolted from here. They were seized on warrants and taken before the P. M. who told the coolies they can go where they pleased, on the plea that they were unable to speak Tamil and plead for themselves. No interpreter was called for, though there was a man in the Court House. If this is to go on, I will not be able to keep labour here as most of my coolies are Canarese and "unable to plead for themselves."

These coolies were recruited from the Coast, the estate paying all expenses.

I can supply proceedings of the cases.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) ST. J. JONKLAAS,
Superintendent.

P. C. 28,230.

RANGASAMY VS. MALAGE.

October 27th.—Warrant issued for 6th November, 1914. November 2nd.—Accused produced, charge explained from warrant.

"The accused does not understand Tamil. He is of some other Indian Race. I cannot explain the charge as my Interpreter does not understand accused. I discharge him."

(Signed) A. L. CROSSMAN,
Police Magistrate.

P. C. 28,233.

RANGASAMY VS. NINGHI.

October 27th.—Warrant issued for November 6th. November 2nd.—Accused produced, charge explained from warrant.

"The accused does not understand Tamil. He appears to be of Canarese Race. I cannot explain charge to him as I have no Interpreter, except for Sinhalese and Tamil. I discharge accused."

(Signed) A. L. CROSSMAN,
Police Magistrate.

It was felt that this action of the Police Magistrate could not be in order or that, if it was, it might give rise to a very serious state of affairs, and it was accordingly decided to send the correspondence up to the Parent Association for their advice.

THE PEENKANDE CASE.

A further letter from Mr. Douglas Berry was read:—

Delwella Group,
Ratnapura, 2nd December, 1914.

The HON. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa P. A.,
Balangoda.

DEAR SIR,

You will remember my speaking to you in the G. O. H. some 10 days ago about the trouble I was having with a Head Kangany since Abdul Khan and 78 coolies of Peenkande Estate walked off "en masse" and were allowed by the Ratnapura P. M. to clear off scott free without even giving a month's notice. I paid the coolies on Saturday, the 28th November, their balance October pay and at the end of the pay the Head Kangany asked me for permission to go to Ratnapura to buy provisions. This I granted him and on the following day discovered that he had sold his cattle and transported his line "saman," chairs, aludrahs, etc., to Ratnapura. As this aroused my suspicion I followed him to Ratnapura, where I found he and his coolies (232) had already sent me notice to quit service and leave the estate on the 23rd December. The coolies as a gang are about as fine and healthy a lot as could be seen, not even one shuck cooly amongst them, and the only reason he could have for giving me notice is simply to get rid of his debt, which amounts to some Rs. 30,000. Just before the Kangany came to Delwella he was three months in jail for disobeying the Superintendent's orders, assaulting a Conductor, and generally causing riot on his previous estate; so nothing was low enough for him to do and it only required a leader and a little idea of how such an action would be listened to by the Magistrate. I think that this is a disgraceful state of affairs that a Kangany and his coolies be allowed to do such a thing without any reason whatsoever and I would be obliged if you asked the Government Agent to visit Delwella previous to the 23rd December, (which is the date the coolies leave) and satisfy himself as regards the health of the coolies, the work or anything he may wish to enquire about.

I shall be only too pleased to meet him any day he may state and answer any questions he may ask.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) DOUGLAS Mc D. BERRY,
Superintendent.

It was settled that this should also be laid in front of the Parent Body to show the trend of affairs in connection with Local Jurisdiction and Sabaragamuwa Labour under the regime of the present Magistrate.

THE SERVING OF WARRANTS.

A letter was read from Mr. Smale anent the difficulty of getting warrants served, and containing a resolution:—

Masseua,
Balangoda, 4th November, 1914.

The HON. SECRETARY,
Sabaragamuwa P. A.,
Balangoda.

DEAR SIR,

I wish to bring the following motion before your next P. A. meeting:—"That the Fiscal Department are either unable or incompetent to deal with labour cases, and that the Government be written and requested to instruct the present Police Magistrate to permit the Police to serve warrants on bolted coolies."

My experience has been—I have lost 60 bolters during the last two years. Out of which one man was caught working on the railways but before my court case could be instituted against the

contractor this man disappeared. I have had to get the warrants re-issued, time after time, and from what the Kangany tells me the peon generally arrives a day or two days late. So evidently the bolters were warned. Some of these have worked their way to Colombo on to Galle and by Morowak Koral to a Sinhalese estate in Rakwana and if the Police Magistrate would permit warrants to be served by the Police, these could easily be arrested when going into Rakwana for rice or selevoo.

I hope your Association will take this matter up and also my former motion re "licensed petition drawers" as I consider these two troubles have only cropped up during the last two Police Magistrates' time.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) C. J. SMALE.

It was decided to send the Resolution to the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary.

PEENKANDE JUDGMENT.

The CHAIRMAN said that this matter had been gone into fully by an enquiry held at their Committee meeting that morning, and he was pleased to be able to state that the unanimous finding of that Committee was:—"That Mr. Berry has even erred on the side of leniency, and that his case, like others in the district, seems, unfortunately, to have been adjudicated upon by the District Judge. The Committee exonerate Mr. Berry "in toto." Further, they would emphasize the fact that the Accused Kangany himself was the only interpreter in a language not understood either by the Judge or the complainant. (Applause). It was further resolved that the entire correspondence be drawn up with annotations and given the fullest publicity, and circulated to the Parent Association, all District Associations, and the Editor of the 'Planting Gazette.' (Hear hear).

Mr. BROWN said that, as doubtless everyone knew, there was to be a Government Enquiry into the conditions of labourers in Sabaragamuwa Province, and that the Government Agent, Dr. Langley Hunt, a member of the Estate Agents' Association, and Mr. G. C. Bliss would sit on that Commission. He thought it would make a very excellent Committee and they courted the fullest enquiry, but at the same time he thought there ought to be a representative of their own community allowed to sit on the Commission.

Mr. VILLIERS proposed that a letter be addressed to the Chairman, Parent Association, Kandy, asking him to make representations to Government that would ensure the presence of, at least, one member of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association on the Commission.

Seconded by Mr. BRIDGE and carried.

LABOUR.

RESOLVED.—That "in view of the fact that the prices of tea and rubber have been maintained, the previous resolution that coolies should be paid half pay be rescinded.

RESOLVED.—That "during the war any member wishing to pay off coolies to another member in the district should show his willingness by writing the words "no objection" across the Tundu when issuing same."

The following letter from Mr. Hawkins was read:—

Rilhena Estate,
Pelmadulla, November 17th, 1914.

DEAR SIR,

A man came here today with tundus, from the following estates:—Meddecombera, Holbrook, Tyspane, Eila, Abbassie, Charlie Hill, Duballow and another. I asked him how he got these tundus, and he said he had bought them. The average works out at Rs. 120 per head.

This is a case of buying and selling with a vengeance and I write to you, as I think it only right, if any steps are to be taken, the P. A. is the best authority.

Yours, faithfully,
(Signed) GEO. HAWKINS.

It was unanimously agreed that while this P. A. could do nothing in the matter, it behoved all members to do as Mr. Hawkins had done, and discountenance such practices.

Resolved:—"That the Parent Association be written to and informed of the grave apprehensions in Sabaragamuwa with regard to the shortage of drugs and the refusal by Government to keep Estate Hospitals and Dispensaries properly supplied with same; further, that in the opinion of this Association some very strong representations, be made before it is settled that half-cured or convalescent coolies be expelled from Government hospitals."

ROADS.

A letter was read from Mr. Megget, of Balangoda, enclosing a newspaper cutting in which appeared the action of the meeting of the Provincial Road Committee, Central Province, held on the 11th instant, in regard to the Bogawantalawa-Balangoda Road, viz:—"That Mr. Cooper be asked to stop further expenditure for the present."

Balangoda Group, Pinnawella, B. O.
via Bogawantalawa.
December 18th, 1914.

"I attach a cutting from 'Times' of Wednesday, which explains itself. The Bogawantalawa-Balangoda Road is an important one, but the particular and much discussed bridge is a disgrace, and a most dangerous one to take a horse over. I crossed it in October and the planks generally looked in a bad way, added to which some were actually missing. I crossed again at the end of last month and some kind Christian had shoved in some planks. I met Cooper and he told me a permanent iron bridge was being put in; he had just seen the bridge and was surprised to find how bad it was. Its not a big bridge and should have attention, else someone will be losing his horse over it."

(Signed) E. E. MEGGET.

In this connection it was pointed out that it was the only convenient communication between Sabaragamuwa and the Central Province, and was a most important road and frequently used. It was agreed to write to the Dickoya P. A. to ask them to urge that, at least, temporary repairs should be done.

The following letters were also read:—

A letter from the Government Agent asking the Association to recommend an appointment of a J.P., U.P.M. for Rakwana. It was resolved "That Mr. E. R. E. Geddes's name be submitted to Government."

Letters re tin tickets were read from the Government Agent, Sabaragamuwa Province and the Government Agent, Western Province.

A letter from the Rakwana committee to the effect that notice coolies should have their names sent to Kandy for inclusion in the "Planting Gazette." It was resolved that this P. A. could not support it as they could not see that any useful purpose would be served.

A letter from Mrs. Thaine thanking the members of this Association for contributing to the fund she was collecting.

A letter and enclosures from the Rev. Paul Paukiam re his Stipend. Resolved that as it is a matter for each individual to settle for himself, this Association can take no steps in the matter.

Letters from the Parent Association re rice and a price being fixed for districts, etc. It was considered that, owing to the turn events had taken, there was no need for such action. As regards the question of purchasing rice by weight on the lines suggested by Mr. Gordon, this received the Association's strong support.

The CHAIRMAN then asked the members to elect a committee to draw up the annual report.

Mr. BAKER thought that they could not do better than leave it in the hands of the Chairman and Hon. Secretary, who should render the same to the committee.

Agreed to by all.

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the meeting.

E. C. VILLIERS,
Hon. Secretary,
Sabaragamuwa P. A.

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

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[No. 12]

Editorial Notes

THE P. A. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

We have no time to refer at any length in this issue to the proceedings at the Annual General Meeting held in London on the 12th. As however the Ceylon Tea Gift is a matter of such vital importance to the Planters' Association we cannot allow a day to pass without thanking Mr. William Forsyth for his promise, on his return to London, to do all he can to assist the Fund. Though he seemed doubtful as to whether the million pounds would be forthcoming, we ourselves, now we know we have such a powerful advocate on our side, have little fear of the ultimate result.

Mr. Forsyth, from what he saw both at the General Meeting and at the Concert will be able to report in London the enthusiasm with which Planters are supporting the Fund and their determination to see it through, and with Mr. Forsyth as leader there will be many followers.

In this connection we may refer to an interview with the Hon'ble the Rural Member, published in the "Times of Ceylon." Mr. Huyshe-Elliot was also doubtful about the million, and suggested that a date should be fixed on which the fund should be closed, whatever the result.

We can by no means adopt this suggestion. We have decided, after a good deal of misunderstanding and not a little recrimination, that we are committed to a million pounds, and we can fix on no date when we shall have accomplished our purpose. We refuse to even think of a day on which we might have to admit defeat. We "aimed at a million" and thought we were entitled to a "sighter": no sooner had we pulled the trigger than we were told it was the "first to count." From an "outer" we have improved to a "magpie" and this encourages us to continue until the white disc is hoisted that announces that we are on to the bull at last.

THE RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION RECRUITING.

RUMOUR has been busy for many months with the names of those who are supposed to have been doing their best to place difficulties in the way of those in Ceylon who wished to give their services to the Empire, and it is with some relief that we find that one of the delinquents is the "Rubber Growers' Association"—a corporate body, which has therefore "no body to be kicked or soul to be damned." This fortunate fact gives us more liberty in denouncing its unpatriotic action than we should care to use had we to criticise an individual, though the fact that it is the action of a considerable number of individuals makes it doubly deplorable.

Everywhere employers are, and have been, doing their best, and making great financial sacrifices to impress on every suitable man that it is his duty to fight for the Empire, and we are astonished that the Rubber Growers' Association should have allied itself to a minority—insignificant numerically if not otherwise—for there are very few in these days who care to raise the cry "cash and more cash" in opposition to the Empire's call for "men and more men."

"Vanoc" in his articles in the "Referee" has drawn attention to the indifference—to use no harsher word—of the Colonial office as exemplified by the Governments of Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, and the mere fact that the Secretary of State cabled out the complaint of the Rubber Growers' Association, instead of giving that body a sharp rap over its incorporate knuckles and telling it to mind its own business, gives additional strength to "Vanoc's" indictment. [The article referred to will be found in another column. Editor, "Planting Gazette."]

To us, at this end, there is a certain sarcastic humour in the suggestion that too great facilities were being afforded by the local Government to men who wished to join the Army, and we can enjoy the humour the more unreservedly, because all discouragement—official and unofficial—has

been unsuccessful, and the Planting Community is worthily represented on active service by those who have put the Empire before Ceylon and patriotism before Rupees.

We would respectfully suggest to H.E. the Governor that he take an early opportunity of informing the Secretary of State for the Colonies that the proper body to approach him on any question concerning the planting and commercial interests of Ceylon, is the Ceylon Association in London, and that representations from any other quarter must be viewed with a certain amount of suspicion. Consisting as it does, mainly of those who have spent the best years of their lives in the Colony and of men who have ungrudgingly given their services for more than the material advancement of the Island or the lining of their own pockets, the Ceylon Association is able to take a wider view of any public question than an Association which appears to regard Ceylon as a distant patch of land, from which—as its members have provided some of the capital—the largest possible amount of revenue must be secured, and we are supported in this contention by the fact that, almost without exception, the companies that are controlled by some of the most prominent members of the Ceylon Association in London, have done all in their power to assist their men—on the most liberal terms—to join the Army.

It may seem invidious perhaps to mention one particular Company, but we cannot help asking the Rubber Growers' Association to compare its action with that of the Ceylon Tea Plantations Companies Limited.

At the same time we must cordially approve the desire of the Rubber Growers' Association to get into closer touch with the Planters' Association of Ceylon (see minutes of Kandy Committee meeting) as we believe that much good may result from co-operation, once the Rubber Growers' Association has learnt that any attempt to interfere with the Ceylon Planter on a matter which is entirely his own private affair, will be fiercely resented and foredoomed to failure, even though assistance be invoked from the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of Ceylon.

THE PETROL TAX.

It would be interesting to know the amount of revenue that is annually collected from the duty on Petrol of 30 cents per gallon, and the amount that is refunded by way of rebate for petrol used for motor vehicles. We know that much that might be claimed is not, but we do not think it would be out of the way to say that at least 90 per cent. of the tax would be refunded if every claim were sent in. The amount of petrol used in Ceylon for lighting and industrial purposes must be trivial compared with the total consumption, and thus we have government giving back with one hand what it takes with the other, a position of affairs which cannot be satisfactory either to the Government or the consumer.

Now that we are face to face with a proposal to re-adjust and increase the tax on motor vehicles, we are of opinion that this might be done much more fairly and justly by means of the petrol tax than by the imposition of an

arbitrary amount calculated on either weight or horse-power, and the suggestion we make for the consideration of the owners of motors and for government is that the necessary taxation should be imposed by refusing the rebate or re-adjusting it, so that each car should be taxed not only in respect of its weight and horse-power but also in respect to the use that is made of it. Were there no rebate a motor cycle doing 60 miles to the gallon of petrol would pay half a cent a mile: a moderate sized car (20 miles per gallon) one and a half cents, and a 2 ton lorry (8 miles per gallon) just under 4 cents per mile or 2 cents per ton mile; and the amount that any vehicle paid annually would then depend entirely on the mileage run.

As any tax on vehicles may be regarded as payment for the use of the roads it is surely fair that the greatest users should be the largest payers. Power, weight, speed and mileage are the prime factors that determine the amount of wear and tear on the roads, and they at the same time, determine the petrol consumption.

In addition to the petrol tax there would be a nominal annual registration and the usual driver's license.

This is not a suggestion that has come up before the Planters' Association of Ceylon, nor, so far as we are aware has it been raised in any quarter, but it is one that seems to us to be so fair and practical that we have no hesitation in bringing it forward for consideration.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS.

Colombo Notes.

Tea continues its upward career. The year opened with the usual three millions, but that apparently was not enough for all wants and growing demand and rising prices were the result. Subsequent sales were even more active. The most remarkable rise touched the commonest kind of leaf, mostly red, but good, medium and common orange pekoes and pekoes also received a lot of attention, some of the finer ones showing as much as a 6 per cent. rise. Broken pekoes attracted keen competition: broken orange pekoes (except noticeably improved quality) were somewhat neglected. Russian intervention is accountable for this persistent upward movement.

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A record rubber sale opened this year's market on January 8th, when 480 tons were catalogued, and each successive sale was a large one. The market opened considerably dearer and prices have been fully maintained since. The feature of the month was the strong demand for all low grades. Ordinary No. 1 biscuits and sheets rose from Rs. 1.15 to Rs. 1.42 per lb. First quality crepe closed in December at Rs. 1.35, opened in January at Rs. 1.44, and has since sold as high as Rs. 1.50, ribbed smoked sheets have advanced from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 1.55.

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The month began well for cocoa. Supplies were fair and demand good and still continued, for the very best No. 1 quality, throughout: but a poor demand and falling

prices set in for inferior kinds. Last quotations were No. 1 Rs. 36 to Rs. 43; No. 2 Rs. 30 to Rs. 35; black Rs. 12 to Rs. 16.

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Except for an occasional small order, coffee was practically at a stand-still—no offerings and no market.

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A fair supply of green cardamoms was available all through the month with a good market to begin with, prices ranging from cents 80 to Rs. 1.16, but slacking off towards the end, the best only realising Rs. 1.13. Bleached cardamoms were in plentiful supply but no demand until the middle of the month, when only small sales resulted: good assortment fetching Rs. 2.30 to Rs. 2.50; best qualities Rs. 2.75. Seeds were only in demand at the end of the month, selling at Rs. 2.10.

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Business in cocoanut oil has been most restricted for the reason that obtained in December, namely the fact that millers cannot provide the oil required. Rs. 595 to Rs. 600 was paid for deliveries ranging from January to April, but the market closes quiet and lower, owing to the latest restrictions regarding the re-export of this commodity from the United Kingdom.

The price of copra has fluctuated considerably (from Rs. 68 to Rs. 80.50, the market rising to the highest price about the beginning of the third week, but in conjunction with cocoanut oil, it fell to Rs. 72, on receipt of the news of the embargo placed upon it in the United Kingdom. A small forward business for 1915 is reported at Rs. 81 and Rs. 82.

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The freight market has been about normal as regards the supply of tonnage, and the large quantities of copra that had been offering for the United Kingdom, have now been got away. A sudden rise in freights to the United Kingdom has been announced by the Home Conference, namely 10s. a ton on all produce (except tea), plus the existing 20 per cent. primage, to take effect from the 1st February, 1915. A further rise of Rs. 5 per ton has since been announced on all cargo to United Kingdom (with exception of tea and rubber) and 4s. 6d. per ton on tea to take effect from the 1st March, 1915. Freights to New York have also been advanced 10s. for all cargo, plus 33½ primage, to take effect from the next steamer loading.

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There is nothing fresh to report in plumbago.

SHARE MARKET.

The feature of this month has been the increasing demand for local rupee stocks, but although buyers have in most cases advanced their limit, the volume of business has been small owing to the unwillingness of holders to part with shares at the prices offering, especially as dividends are due so soon.

All classes of shares seem to be enquired for, more particularly Produce Companies. There have been a few transactions in commercial, such as Brown & Co's and G.O.H.'s, but these latter at a very low figure. First class debentures and preference issues are wanted but very few are to be had.

Dealing in sterling shares would be brisker, but for the fact that the London Stock Exchange rules necessitate a ready delivery of stock sold to London, i.e., stock must be in hand of London Brokers before they can deal.

Generally prospects are quite satisfactory and unless something unforeseen occurs, the good prices now ruling for both tea and rubber should, as time goes on, tend to still further increase the value of shares, many of which still seem very attractive judging by the cost per acre and the probable return on money invested.

REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL RUBBER AND ALLIED TRADES EXHIBITION, 1914.

By R. N. LYNE, F. L. S., F. R. G. S., CEYLON

COMMISSIONER.

This is a commendably short and concise report, consisting as it does, of eight pages of printed matter, and four illustrations of the Ceylon Pavilion and stand, and yet it is a report from which nothing material has been omitted. We are not sure that some of it will be much to the liking of the Rubber Researcher—the breath of whose nostrils is sub-permanent recovery—as Mr. Lyne says, “what struck me more than anything else was the stolid indifference of manufacturers to academic arguments and tests conducted by those who are not themselves manufacturers. . . . and the lesson seems to be that it is futile to try and prove the manufacturer wrong by laboratory tests.” This attitude of the manufacturer kept him away from the Rubber Congress at which no less than forty-one papers were listed to be read, and though Mr. Lyne thinks that when these papers are printed they will form a valuable addition to the literature of rubber, more good could be done by informal discussion with manufacturers at their stands than by attending the Congress.

Mr. LYNE has no anxiety on the question of the relative merits of Para and Plantation rubber. “It is like comparing Devon cattle with Highland, or Lincoln sheep with Merino; they are different products and will never become identical. If Para enjoys a monopoly in some directions, plantation enjoys it in others.” At one stand, belonging to a large manufacturer, there was no article exhibited that was made exclusively from Para rubber, though there were many made from Plantation only, and some from Plantation and Para mixed.

On the question of Ját, we are told: “It is now accepted that the seed Wickham procured came from the region of hard fine; only just within that region, yet undoubtedly within it. . . . Judging from the variety of seed exhibited in the Brazilian stand, there must be many

different jâts within that area. Indeed we know that rubber from the Madeira, for instance, differs from that from the Acre. Our seed is from the Madeira plateau, an altogether different region from Acre, near the borders of Bolivia, where some of the best rubber comes from."

However it is altogether impossible to do justice to the Report in the limited amount of space at our disposal and we strongly recommend those interested to get a copy of the Report for themselves. It can be obtained from the Government Record Office, Colombo, price 20 cents.

CUTTINGS FROM HOME PAPERS.

If the Huns are to be beaten and brought to their knees, three things are necessary—the British birth-rate must rise, the quality of our race must improve, and the Government, for the period of the war, must be a national Government, reflecting the nation's will. Certain departments have done well, other departments have done ill. None has done worse than the Colonial Office. In Ceylon and the Straits Settlements German influence has been openly exercised until it seems that to be an Englishman is something to be ashamed of. In the streets of Berlin tin soldiers in Scottish garb are sold to the children. Tin English soldiers are sold with halters round their necks. England must wake, and must wake soon.

SCOTCH ARCHBISHOPS.

The hatred of Germany for England is not resented by a few of our Celtic fellow-subjects. Both the Scotch Archbishops of the Church of England seem to bear with equanimity the hatred of the Germans for the English. As an Englishman I resent and disdain the language of the Scotch Archbishop of York. He condemns the English for being addicted to the unchristian sin of lasting hate. The indictment is inaccurate. The conduct of the Colonial Office of affairs in Ceylon and the Straits Settlements is proof that England does not hate Huns too much, but too little. The exploits of the "Emden" were only possible because the Colonial Office refused to treat Germans in British Colonies as they ought to have been treated. I receive bitter complaints of the inaction of the Colonial Governors. Having obtained a battle-ship from the Malay States, to be paid for by money that was taken from, not given by, the Malay people, the Colonial Office refrained from internment of Germans in the Federated Malay States until after the "Emden" had destroyed £2,000,000 worth of British property. I am informed on responsible authority that the only reason that some Germans were afterwards interned was because of the information they had given to the "Emden." Why were they not interned at the beginning of the war?

I learn that many of these Germans have already been released and are as free to go about their business as ever they were. An ex-Prussian cavalry officer of forty-five or so, with a wife and children in Germany, swaggers at the English club, and was only warned by authority after he

was found talking sedition to his coolies. The Singapore Volunteers, who guard the prisoners of war on St. John's Island, get bare military rations, while the prisoners' fare is described as "infinitely better." Illustrated papers from Government House, Singapore, marked "For use of German prisoners ONLY" (with the word "only" three times underlined), are sent from the German wife of a certain official. An important member of the big German community in Singapore gave his parole at the beginning of the war. After the "Emden" had succeeded in her raid on British shipping a complete wireless installation was found in this Hun's private house.

BRITISH, IRISH, AND HUNS.

Who is responsible for allowing a German to give his "word of honour," knowing that the word of a German is worthless? Another German firm was fined 500 dols. for breaking the law relative to the importation of firearms. That firm still carries on business both at Singapore and Penang, and advertises in the daily papers. Unless these statements can be refuted I contend that the administration of the Colonial Office is not, as regards the treatment of Germans in the Middle East, a reflection of the nation's will. It is the will of the nation that the British and Irish people shall win this war. It is not the will of the nation that wireless telegraphy should be set up in the house of any German on parole or that information should be given by Germans to the Captain of the "Emden" or to any German warship without being followed by the death penalty. Every penny that has been lost by British and Irish merchants through the depredations of the "Emden" should be repaid by the British Government. The management of the Colonial Office should be placed in hands representative of the British and Irish people.—"VANCO," *The Referee*, December 20th.

A REVIEW OF THE WAR IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

The month of January has not provided any outstanding actions in the land campaign in the West or the East. Snow and tempest, floods and seas of mud have tended to make operations extremely difficult. Along the Aisne, the swollen river carried away bridges rendering the French communications precarious and causing the abandonment of some guns. Nevertheless along the whole front there has been no idleness, the fortunes of war varying for each side, progress being restricted to a few hundred yards of trenches, indeed the operations have resolved themselves practically into siege operations. The Kaiser's birthday however seems to have been the occasion for special activity by the enemy, but their efforts were fruitless and a French Communique states that according to the number of dead found on 24th to 26th at Ypres, Labassee, Craonne, Argonne, Woevre and Vosges the enemies' losses were over 20,000. A notable feature of the operations in the west has been the offensive by aircraft. On the 11th sixteen German aeroplanes were seen over the Channel evidently intending

a raid on England, but owing to bad weather they must have abandoned the attempt and instead visited Dunkirk and dropped bombs, being attacked by British and French airmen and driven off after an exciting chase up to 7,000 feet elevation. On the 19th German airmen raided the East Coast dropping bombs on Yarmouth and a village near Sandringham, while on 21st British airmen damaged Ostend station, killing a number of soldiers, and also dropped bombs on submarines at Zeebrugge. While reconnoitring, seven enemy aeroplanes surrounded one of the British aircraft which however managed to escape. A British airman also succeeded in wrecking the German Government motor works at Esneu containing 400 cars, while the Russians bagged a Zeppelin at Libau.

In the Eastern theatre there seems to be a lull in activity, in the Cracow and Lodz regions where in December fighting was fiercest, while the Russians have taken the offensive in the Bukovina region of Galicia apparently with Transylvania as objective. How far this will suit Roumania remains to be seen, as she has coveted this province of Hungary, and it may tempt her to join the Allies very soon in order to ensure for herself some spoils of war. Toward the north the Russians appear to have advanced in force to within twenty-five miles of the frontier station Thorn, which is on the direct road to Berlin, and fierce fighting is also reported still further north at Gumbinnen.

Turkish operations have failed to secure a single success. Against the Russians in the Caucasus they suffered defeats at Sarykamysh, Ardahan, and Karaufgan, and the news of these misfortunes spreading to Syria has much demoralised the Ottoman army being collected by German officers for the invasion of Egypt. The threatened advance in the Suez Canal has been long materialising and it was not till the 26th that any collision took place. On that day there was a brush with the Turks east of Kantara, and it is said that three corps are marching against Egypt. The Syrian army, however, though of good fighting material in men, is awfully ill-supplied for a desert march, and lacking in equipment and artillery, while a very large British force has been assembled in Egypt to meet any eventuality. The German officers with the Turkish army are in a perilous position, for failure is sure to bring upon them a terrible fate at the hands of the deluded and fanatical Ottomans.

On sea the month opened with the loss of H.M.S. "Formidable," torpedoed in the Channel by an enemy submarine, involving the sacrifice of 500 lives. The gallant and noble action of the Captain should be recorded in that he signalled ships not to stand by as there was danger from submarine attack. On the 15th a French submarine while on patrol duty in the Dardanelles was sunk by the Turks. While the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, after seriously damaging the "Goeben" and "Hamidieh" secured complete command of those waters and subsequently sank Turkish transports. But on 24th there took place a naval engagement of highest importance in the North Sea. A German fleet of four battle cruisers, six light cruisers and some destroyers, evidently bent on a raid on the coast met a British patrolling squadron, under Admiral

Beatty, of five battle cruisers, several light cruisers and destroyers. The enemy at once turned and fled, pursued by our ships. Speed worked up to 21 knots an hour when the enemy was overhauled and firing began at 18,000 yards, the first hit being made at 17,000 yards. After a running fight of about 100 miles our ships drew off on nearing enemy mined waters and owing to the presence of enemy submarines. Two enemy ships were sunk and two other German battle cruisers were heavily afire and seriously damaged. We had no loss in ships and only two suffered damage which can be repaired in a short time, while our loss in men was 14 killed and 29 wounded against several hundred German killed.

In the last issue I gave the approximate number of men available by each combatant. The details I gave showed the total mobilised forces of the belligerent powers as over 21,000,000 men. Later information shows these figures to be underestimated. Germany, Austria, France and Russia have all, we know, called out further men. Germany is stated on good authority to have a further 4,000,000 under training, the Austrian figure should be increased from 2,500,000 to 4,000,000, while with the further reserves of Russia and France, and the Turkish troops, the total armed forces of the belligerent powers comes to the enormous figure of about 28,000,000 men. If we add the men mobilised in Italy, Greece, Roumania, Bulgaria, Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden all at present neutral—there must be quite 32,000,000 men under arms. It needs but little imagination to picture the incalculable loss resulting to the world and the inevitable set back that must be caused, by the withdrawal of so many men from peaceful and productive work, without counting the actual capital loss by the destruction of towns, bridges, railways and factories. As far as can be ascertained the losses suffered by the belligerents to the middle of January are:—

Germany	... 2,250,000	Russia	... 1,500,000
Austria	... 1,600,000	France	... 1,000,000
Turkey	... 150,000	Belgium	... 225,000
		Servia & Montenegro	... 175,000
		Great Britain	... 100,000
	<hr/> 4,000,000		<hr/> 3,000,000

These figures represent men knocked out—either killed, wounded, missing or prisoners, and of course a percentage has returned to the front.

In Austria the position must already be desperate in all ways, financial, economic and political. While the price of flour has trebled in Vienna and the city is full of wounded and racked by internal troubles, half a million of Galician refugees have sought its shelter, whilst small-pox, cholera and typhoid are raging.

In Germany the finance minister has resigned in despair, while the Kaiser's government have forbidden all transactions in flour and on 1st February will take over all stocks of wheat and flour and will distribute wheat and corn in proportion to the number of the inhabitants, while municipalities are to regulate meat supplies.

On the other hand in the same week in England wheat dropped one shilling a bushel on the open market and is expected shortly to fall still further in price owing to abundant supplies.

But we cannot expect that the enemy is already coming to his knees. The pride of a nation is not easily broken. Though Germany started with a trained force of 5,000,000 men the "Times" military correspondent states that no less than a further 4,000,000 Germans, untrained at the beginning of the war, like most of Kitchener's army, are now being trained. But the resources of the Allies are daily increasing and by the early Spring, when the Allies' main offensive is expected to begin, we shall no longer be numerically inferior in either men or guns. But at what cost in human life that offensive must be assumed! It is said that in the West the vast German defensive preparations include cement trenches and that every hillock has been turned into a fortress in Upper Alsace, while on both fronts Germany will have the great advantage on the defensive of many rivers and mountain ranges.

H. J. TEMPLE.

Ambawela, January 31st, 1915.

THE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE WAR.

Directly after the outbreak of war local tea and rubber auctions and the local share Exchange were closed, and, coupled with the immediate interference or stoppage of ocean freightage, caused great anxiety to those responsible for Estates, more especially to those whose sole funds are derived from sale or shipment of produce. The five big Banks which have Ceylon for part of their field of operations and which have together in proportion to their liabilities on notes, deposit and current accounts 25 per cent. in immediately available cash and a further 9 per cent. in Government Securities, met the first shock of war to the Estates in a splendid manner, but with a Bank rate that jumped in a week from 3 per cent. to 10 per cent, they naturally had to use exceptional caution and rather to await developments in London. It was from the Imperial Capital that relief had to come, and the clearing of the situation can only be explained by giving a brief account of what measures were taken in London.

On 25th July the Bank rate at home was 3 per cent. and business normal. Within a week the rate was 10 per cent, a rate unheard of for half a century, the Exchange closed and so serious a measure as the suspension of the Bank Act was considered. To safeguard their position the great clearing Banks in London called in their advances, which proceeding seriously affected the discount and accepting houses and to affect these means to affect Colonial trade. As it was of vital importance to maintain this trade the British Government, by happy co-operation with bankers and merchants, found a solution to the difficulty in

the following measures. Firstly currency notes of £1 and s. 10 were put into circulation which relieved the stringency in gold, secondly a Moratorium was proclaimed, legislating the postponement of payment of any bill, and thirdly the Bank of England, under the responsibility of Government, agreed to advance to approved acceptors funds equal to the amounts their clients had failed to pay on pre-moratorium bills, at the same time consenting not to claim refund until a year after the war, while later the Bank agreed to discount pre-moratorium acceptances and an enormous business was done in these bills. These measures very soon relieved the financial stringency and removed the block of trade bill upon which external trade depended for clearance, and enabled Colonial and foreign commerce to resume operations. The Bank rate quickly fell, money became free, the Colonial Banks, all so dependent on the London money market, were able to do business with a cleared field and as a result the Colombo Banks were able to offer us the usual facilities which we so fully appreciated under the exceptional circumstances of war.

But another difficulty arose—the difficulty of finding tonnage. With hostile men-of-war at large and floating mines, a freighter hesitated to risk his steamer to dangers uncovered by ordinary insurance. Here again the Imperial Government came to the rescue of our trade and very early introduced the Government War Risks Insurance Scheme under which all British vessels—hulls and cargoes—could be insured against war risks from any port in the world for a maximum premium of 5 per cent, the State bearing 80 per cent. of the risk. No vessel at sea at the outbreak of war could be so insured until it touched a port,—thus the City of Winchester which carried a large cargo of tea and was sunk off Socotra could not have been insured. The maximum rate was only maintained for three days, when it was reduced to 4 per cent, a fortnight later to 3 per cent, a week later still to 2 per cent. and stood at 1 per cent. at the end of the year. The result of the introduction of this scheme was a tremendous rush to insure. It steadied shipping and merchantmen ventured the seas, Colombo especially benefitting from the measure. The difficulty now remaining was the insufficiency of tonnage, an irremediable difficulty due to the internment of a great many enemy merchantmen and the temporary withdrawal from mercantile service of a large number of British ships for the transport of troops.

Very soon after war broke out all freights home were increased by 25 per cent, payment being required in Ceylon instead of, as usual, London, but on 15th September the surtax was reduced to 20 per cent., which rate remained in force at the end of the year.

On the 15th September a fresh difficulty presented itself. On that day the "Emden" sank the "Diplomat" in the Bay of Bengal, and for two months this German Cruiser terrorised our Commerce, first haunting the Calcutta-Colombo run, then our immediate waters, afterwards the Colombo-Perim run, sinking over twenty vessels before she was finally destroyed on November 6th.

at the Cocos Islands. Since then Ceylon Commerce has been entirely free from interference of any kind—indeed, apart from the anxieties of the first week, when at home the position was being cleared for us, we have been remarkably free from any of the disabilities one expects in war. Local auctions of produce, suspended for six weeks, reopened, and, while in London tea prices have throughout the war been remarkably good, mainly owing to short stocks and short supplies, local tea prices fell away somewhat at first to gradually recover. On the re-opening of local auctions rubber prices showed a severe relapse but have now regained in port, suffering from restrictions on export owing to the commodity being declared contraband. It is noteworthy that Germany took 16 per cent. of the world's production of rubber in 1913.

TEA exports for 1914 were 190,734,911 lbs. (black) and 4,481,508 lbs. (green) against 187,081,132 lbs. (black) and 5,158,028 lbs. (green) in 1913. The averages were, in London 9.14 pence against 9.04 pence in 1913; in Colombo 47 cents against 46½. The statistical position is good, stocks on 31st December last being 121½ million pounds against 138 million pounds in 1913. Owing to the disturbance in shipping, while there were big decreases in exports to Russia and China, there were substantial increases in shipments to England, Australasia, and the United States. Australia, New Zealand and Russia show the two markets most capable of expansion. Australasian imports in 1913 showed an increase of 2,613,000 lbs. Ceylon against an increase of only 420,000 lbs. Indian, while Java and China showed decreases of one million and 470,000 lbs. respectively. The year 1914 shows a further increase of over 2 million pounds Ceylon tea. In the Russian market Ceylon was also rapidly progressing, and up to the outbreak of war our direct exports had increased for the seven months from 9 million to 10½ million pounds, but since the war this market has been almost closed to us, only two million going there in the last five months against 9 million pounds in the same period of the previous year.

While the Russian import duty has been increased by 5 per cent, the English tax has been raised from 5 pence to 8 pence per lb., the Chancellor of the Exchequer estimating the effect would be a decrease of 5 per cent in consumption.

It is noteworthy that while British exports to Holland increased in two months from one million to 16 million, Dutch exports to Germany proportionately increased. To prevent as far as possible tea reaching the enemy country, British exports to Holland were stopped, but it is difficult to see how the enemy's tea supplies could thus be cut off since imports from Holland were still available to Germany, whose total requirements in 1913 were very small, while the Dutch Java crop—over 65 millions—would be available for Holland to draw upon. Indeed as a result of our prohibition of export Java teas were being diverted from the London to the Amsterdam market. In the middle of January, however, the British Government removed the embargo on tea exports to northern neutrals.

RUBBER exports for 1914 amount to 39,115,380 lbs. against 28,033,345 lbs. in 1913, 75 per cent. of the increase being represented by shipments to the United Kingdom, exports to foreign ports having been either stopped or seriously affected by the product being declared contraband. A modification in the prohibition of export of rubber was made in January this year whereby the British Government formed a special licensing Committee to issue rubber export licenses after enquiry and giving of guarantee. Rubber to the United States is shipped to the British Consul in New York who releases consignments when guarantees are completed.

With regard to the products of the *Coccoloba* palm, there have been increases in exports of copra and desiccated coconut, and decreases in nuts and oil, the feature being that the decrease in exports to Germany have been counter-balanced by increases in shipments to the United Kingdom. Copra prices fell away badly in the first two months of war, but gradually regained ground and forward contracts have been made at as much as Rs. 80 per candy. Recently the Home Government ordered the prohibition of export of copra and allied products to any ports except British, and it is to be hoped that the eventual permanent result will be that London will become the distributing centre for Europe for these products. In 1913 Germany took 76 per cent. of our copra exports, against the United Kingdom 16 per cent.

Cocoa exports have dropped from 69,031 cwts. in 1913 to 57,766 cwts. last year; Caramboms from 451,500 lbs. to 404,070 lbs; whilst Plumago shipments are less than half the previous year, falling from 575,944 cwts. in 1913 to 286,021 cwts. in 1914. Owing to an enormous increase in exports of Cocoa to Holland and corresponding increase in Dutch exports to Germany, the British Government in January prohibited exports of cocoa to any country except allied, Spain or Portugal.

Rice imports amounted to 1,844,744 bags, an increase of 142,395 bags for the whole year, but while the increase for the seven months before the war amounted to 224,525 bags, the five war months show a decrease of 82,130 bags. The temporary short stocks in September-October caused the price to rise to the exceptionally high figure of Rs. 6 f.o.r. Colombo, but the price has now fallen to pre-war figures.

The effects of the war on the Island's Revenue and Expenditure may be briefly noted. The initial shock to Commerce at the outbreak of war and resulting commercial timidity, the fear of the "Emden" and the shortage of tonnage, all combined to make the first three months of war disastrous to Customs revenue. The decrease in August was Rs. 180,000; in September Rs. 773,000; in October Rs. 579,000. In December His Excellency the Governor announced in the Legislative Council that owing to a decrease of 25 per cent. in the Island's Revenue in the first three months of war, it was necessary to considerably reduce the expenditure originally estimated. The Estimates of Rs. 66,000,000 were reduced to Rs. 48,000,000. New works, chargeable to Revenue, for P.W.D. and railways were reduced by 65 per cent. for harbours by 50 per cent.

and new works chargeable to Loans suffered a reduction of 50 per cent. There was not a single head of ordinary current expenditure which escaped retrenchment. Specially might be noticed a reduction of 20 per cent. in working railways involving a reduction in train service; of 40 per cent. in P.W.D. annually recurrent expenditure of which the major part concerns the maintenance of roads. Meanwhile the effects of the war on revenue may be noted. I have given the decreases in Customs for the first three war months; in November there was an increase of Rs. 16,000 and in December a decrease of Rs. 159,000; the total for the year showing a small drop from Rs. 16,996,000 in 1913 to Rs. 16,415,000 last year. The Railway receipts for the first four months of war show a decrease over the corresponding period of the previous year of about 4 per cent. In total General Revenue for the first four war months there is only a fall of 9 per cent. compared with the same period 1913, which is more than covered by the increases in the earlier months of the year.

September was the worst month for revenue, but each subsequent month shows a great recovery. All the great industries of the Island, except plumbago, are working as in times of peace, there seems little likelihood of prices dropping so that our products will be produced at a loss, and there seems little doubt that the export of Ceylon products will at any rate not decrease. The purchasing power of the Island should not then be very materially affected, and imports, upon which the Customs Revenue mainly depends, should not then, after the first six months of war, be seriously impaired. And with all the great industries working normally, the Railways, should, after the first six months, not be far behind its average receipts. While, then, some adjustment may be necessary to meet a slight deficiency in revenue in the first six months of shock and doubt, there is every indication that our trade is reverting to a normal figure, and it is much to be hoped that the drastic retrenchment introduced will be modified so as not to affect the maintenance of roads, railways and harbours which would only result in serious detriment to the industries which this Association represents. —

COOLY WAGES ON TEA ESTATES.

Under modern conditions of high advances and shortage of labour supply, it is obviously desirable to so arrange the pay list as to make it possible for each labourer to earn up to his or her maximum capability. It must be admitted that the old system of payment by time work does not fill the bill. I would go further and say that it is more or less of an incentive to just putting in the day's work and no more, while it also tends to lower the really good wage-earners to the average level of the gangs with which they work.

The trouble has been recognised for years past, and attempt made to cope with it on many estates by the payment during "rush" months of a "bonus," usually calcu-

lated on the extra poundage plucked over and above some arbitrary figure fixed as the value of the day's time-work. It is well known that this and other systems have led to abuses of the bush plucked and of the wages so earned, while cost per pound has increased and supervision has been rendered more difficult.

One remedy is to utterly "cut out and abolish" the time-work system—to do away with the meaningless stroke in the Big Checkroll which represents a day's work at an arbitrary fixed rate, and to credit the labourer each day with his actual earnings in cents—in fact to bring the Checkroll into line with the paylists of commercial concerns all the world over.

The value is obvious, especially as regards the harvesting of crop. To deal with this matter first, I give details as regards actual experience of over 2 years. At the outset, coolies think they can pluck anything and in any way, but as they soon find that one badly plucked round in a field may mean loss of wages in that field for a month or six weeks they soon give this up, and without doubt pluck more carefully than they do when paid on time-work.

The system tends to a delegation of authority. In practice a decent Kangani is put in charge of a given round of fields, and being responsible is rated higher. As pruning periods mature, the individual Kangani moves to different "rounds," and this keeps him in charge of the same gang of coolies. The Kangani in charge of the round is held responsible for the fixing of the rate per pound to be paid at any given plucking, conjointly with his immediate superior, either K.P., Conductor or S.D. Rates per pound need not change each round, but obviously should receive due consideration, as they must naturally vary with regard to climatic conditions, pruning periods, and class of coolies plucking the field. I would emphasise this point of having the requisite delegated authority for varying rates every round, if necessary, as I find it a very necessary factor for successful working.

As regards Maintenance Works the actual cash pay list is equally valuable. All coolies engaged in these works are rated according to their capability of carrying out a certain class of work. Factory coolies and pruners for instance, are rated higher than weeders—so no great alteration is made in the system, but supervision is made easier, and the coolie knows each day exactly how many cents he has earned. For an example let me take the case of a coolie who knows how to prune, but being a congenitally lazy person, prefers to slip off to weeding. When he comes to get his name put down, he finds out he has earned 32 cents as a weeder, whereas he might have earned 38 cents if he had gone to prune. There is no need to labour this matter with explanation. The working planter will see the value—but a point I should like to bring forward is that of the elasticity of the cash paylist.

There is a need for keeping a gang of coolies out to finish a job of work. The requisite number of cents can be added to their wage—per contra—the gang has not done exactly the "Kanack" set them—reduce their pay by the

requisite number of cents. This is obviously more desirable than the old system which only enables the supervisor to put the labourer "halfname," or "sick."

As regards "head money." Under the old system, I paid 2 cents to the Head-kangany, and 3 cents to the sub-Kangani.

When I started the new system, I paid 5 per cent to 10 per cent. respectively and still pay it. But I think that **this payment does not quite represent the former earnings of head-money.** The general payment appears to be 2 and 4 cents on the old system and this would nearly be balanced by say 7 per cent. and 11 per cent. of the earnings, on the new system.

The reason why the head-money should be increased is that it does not pay the Kangani to employ a "shuck" cooly as his head-money is based on piece-work earnings. In the result, **there is no doubt that a cash pay list has the effect of improving the general quality of one's labour force, but it is equally certain that kanganies do not like the idea until they have arrived at a recognition of the main fact that it pays them to have a wage-earner, rather than a waster, in their gang.**

The gradual breaking down of the tissue of conservatism is not easy, and must be undertaken with full recognition that the matter cannot be carried through in six months or less. But much can be done by quiet insistence and tact, and I venture to say that the superintendent who will take the trouble to initiate a system suitable to his own needs on the lines I have attempted to map out, will never regret having done so when once his labour force understands that he is out to pay them exactly what they are capable of earning.

I have been told the scheme is not a workable one as it enables really good women pluckers to earn more than good men. The objection is purely theoretical—brought forward by men who have not cared to try the system. In practice, no objection is raised. I have also been informed that it is not advisable to increase a cooly's wages but have never yet been given a working reason for the statement, which is, of course, absurd. By inducing the labourer to increase his daily output of work and paying accordingly, it is possible to reduce cost per pound, to get better work done, and to a certain extent to save the need for supervision. **These may be termed direct savings. Indirect savings are made by the reduction of interest on advances, upkeep of Lines, Medical aid, and so forth.**

PALINURUS.

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

MINUTES of a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya, on 7th January, 1915.

Present.—The Director of Agriculture (Chairman), the Hon'ble the Government Agent, C.P.; the Hon'ble the Rural Member of the Legislative Council; the Chairman,

Ceylon Planters' Association; the Botanist and Mycologist; the Entomologist; the Government Chemist; the Manager, Dry Zone Experiment Station; Messrs. N. G. Campbell, J. S. Patterson, A. S. Long Price, E. W. Keith, A. E. de S. Rajapaksa, A. W. Beven, M. L. Wilkins, H. F. Laycock, H. Inglis, and the Secretary; and Mr. H. L. de Mel, Hony. Secretary, Low Country Products Association, as a visitor.

2. Referring to the Progress Reports the Chairman called attention to an additional note tabled. This contained reports from three Colombo Firms on the samples of cacao fermented by two methods detailed in the Gangaruwa report. It will be seen all three agreed that the usual method gave the most satisfactory results.

Mr. Keith agreed with these reports and added that in his opinion neither of the samples were sufficiently fermented.

3. Referring to the Dry Zone Progress Report the Chairman pointed out that the paddy experiments again emphasized the fact that the goiya sowed much more seed than necessary. He thought that the only way of influencing the goiya was by the personal exertions of members of the Ceylon Agricultural Society, the Planters' Association and the Low Country Products Association, each in his own locality.

Mr. De Mel pointed out that these experiments were with three months' paddy. The goiya might be induced to sow less for this crop, but he thought that a five months' paddy required more seed.

Mr. Beven thought that the lesson might be published in the Vernacular Press which most Headmen read and could be passed on by them to the goiya.

COCONUT BEETLES.

4. Mr. Patterson asked if there was any further information with regard to the beetle traps laid down in the Experiment Station.

Mr. Petch replied that traps were thoroughly inoculated three months ago with the fungus (*Metarrhizium anisopliae*) cultivated at Peradeniya, but another three months must be allowed to elapse before any definite results could be expected.

5. Mr. Long Price stated that in Ceylon it was not the Rhinoceros beetle which did most damage but the Red beetle, which destroyed a large quantity of young palms by boring in from any wound in the trunk and eating out the whole interior. He was of opinion that it was not correct to say that Red weevil ever followed an attack by Black beetle, and suggested that it was the former and not the latter that we should get after.

Mr. RUTHERFORD pointed out that the weevil did not bore into the palm, but laid its eggs in the palm, the larvae subsequently tunnelling into the interior; that the adult weevils found inside the stem had been bred there; and that it was generally agreed among Entomologists that the tunnels made by the Black beetle afforded places, among many others, when the eggs might be laid.

The remedies at one's command were (1) Consistently

to search for infested trees, and either to cut out the grubs, etc., or to kill them *in situ* by the use of Carbon bisulphide inserted into augur holes bored above the grubs. (2) To destroy all dead or dying palms, coconut and others, that might serve as centres of dispersion.

6. He suggested that the West Indian plan of dealing with an allied weevil might be tried, viz., of distributing through a coconut plantation pieces of non-infested stems as trap egg-laying places, and destroying these after—say six weeks; In India it has been found that the Red weevil passes from the egg stage to the adult in about ten weeks.

Mr. LONG PRICE replied that this was the usual practise on well-managed estates, but surrounding native estates would still continue as breeding grounds. Mr. Petch said that where dead trees occurred recourse could be had to the regulations already published under Ordinance No. 5 of 1901 for the control of pests.

7. The CHAIRMAN then asked Mr. Price if he wished to bring forward any definite proposal for the checking of the Red beetle pest.

Mr. PRICE replied that he would formulate a proposal and bring it forward next meeting.

GREY BLIGHT ON COCONUT PALMS.

8. Mr. PATTERSON and Mr. BEVEN both brought this subject up on the agenda.

Mr. PATTERSON said that he had noticed that this leaf disease was greatly on the increase lately. Mr. Beven corroborated this, but in his case he was not sure if this unhealthy appearance of the young palms he particularly had in mind was not due to an inadvertent overdose of Nitrolim. The manure he had intended to apply was a mixture of Kainit and Nitrolim, but by mistake Nitrolim only was applied at the rate of 6—8 lbs. per tree forked in 18 inches from the palm.

9. Mr. BAMBER was of opinion that it was unlikely that Nitrolim would produce this effect if applied properly, but no doubt the amount was too strong for young palms and in forking it in only 18 inches away doubtless the roots were damaged and perhaps burnt in consequence by the Nitrolim.

10. Mr. RAJAPAKSA thought the Grey Blight was due more to excessive drought early in the year, followed by the excessive rains of late. In unduly wet years Grey Blight always was more noticeable but he did not consider it called for undue anxiety. Cultivation would soon bring back the plants into a healthy state. Mr. Petch confirmed this and stated that after severe drought the vitality of the palm was so impaired as to render the palm an easy victim to the attack of leaf disease. The Chairman then put it to the Committee whether in their opinion the question was of sufficient importance to lay before the Planters and the Low Country Products Association to ascertain from members whether in their opinion the disease was spreading to any undue degree and if so where.

11. The Committee expressed the opinion that this should be done and it was resolved accordingly.

BARK ROT IN RUBBER.

12. Mr. HUYSE-ELIOT asked that though Mr. Tisdall was not present he thought it would be of general interest if the Committee could have Mr. Petch's opinion.

Mr. PETCH stated that this disease which was common in some districts during the North-East Monsoon could be stopped by washing the affected tapping surface with a 20 per cent. solution of Carbolineum Plantarium.

CACAO POD DISEASE.

13. Mr. N. CAMPBELL said that pod disease in cacao had been excessively prevalent this year—Kondesalle Estate having had as much as 17 per cent. in spite of picking off and burying with lime all diseased pods every two weeks. He found on referring to back records that Kondesalle had as high a percentage in a previous wet year. He would like to know if any treatment of the soil was likely to prove effective in checking this disease?

Mr. PETCH did not consider that any soil treatment would be of much value. The suggestion that the leaf mulch should be buried with lime might be tried, but it could only operate, as far as the diminution of the disease was concerned, by making the plantation less humid.

14. Mr. KEITH asked if collecting all the leaves from the ground and burning them would have any effect, because he found that it was nearly always the lower pods which were first affected, which he thought might arise from the rotting damp vegetation on the ground.

Mr. PETCH replied he thought not as this particular fungus had no resting-spore as far as was known at present.

15. Mr. CAMPBELL thought it might be preferable to collect and bury the leaves, etc., with lime in a central trench thereby preserving the necessary humus.

Mr. BAMBER said this had been done several years ago in plots one and two at the Experiment Station and though these plots had had no applied manure since, they were the highest yielders, which was not wholly due to the proximity of the cool lines. Mr. Campbell said he would try this plan experimentally on one or two acres.

REMOVAL OF RUBBER STUMPS.

16. Mr. WILKINS wished to know what Mr. Petch advised as regards the removal of rubber stumps left after thinning out operations. As far as he could see up to date no resulting fungus disease had spread from them to other rubber trees. He admitted that where cacao, jak or figs stumps had been left disease had spread to neighbouring rubber trees.

17. Mr. N. CAMPBELL and Mr. HUYSE-ELIOT both agreed that as far as their experience went no harm had resulted from leaving rubber stumps a foot high, and as it cost approximately six cents per root to uproot to a depth of 15 inches it was a matter of importance and they would like Mr. Petch to summarise his opinion.

Mr. PETCH stated that the destruction of the stumps was always brought about by fungi, and it was a matter of pure chance whether those fungi were injurious or not. The risk of disease from Hevea stumps after thinning out was greater than that from the original jungle stumps as they were all of one kind and that the same as the trees remaining. No disease had yet been known to result from leaving the Hevea stumps, but it was too early to deduce from that that there would not be any disease, because the Hevea stumps died very slowly. In many cases, Hevea stumps were still alive four years after the trees had been felled. There was less danger of infection by parasitic fungi if the tap root was cut 18 inches below ground, so that the access of windborne spores was prevented, but this was unsafe in areas where root disease already existed. In interplanted fields where cacao had been felled or tea abandoned, root disease had spread to the Hevea from the cacao stumps or the dying tea. Where the Hevea stumps were left above the ground, the chance of root disease might be estimated, in general, at about ten to one against.

18. The CHAIRMAN tabled a scheme for revising the manuring on six acres of tea to bring out the relative value of nitrogenous, Phosphatic, and potassic manures with tea.

The Committee expressed its approval of the proposal.

D. S. CORLETT,

SECRETARY,

Committee of Agricultural Experimenters.

PERADENIYA,

25th January, 1915.

CEYLON TEA GIFT.

Statement of tea received by the Chamber of Commerce.

List No. 3.			List No. 3.		
Name of Sender.	No. of Packages.	Nett weight lbs.	Name of Sender.	No. of Packages.	Nett weight lbs.
Palamcottta Estate ...	12	996	H. C. Schofield, Esq., Batgodde Estate ...	4	300
Gonagama Estate ...	6	500	Oonanagalla Estate ...	3	200
Bibilleoyatenne Estate ...	1	50	Ceylon Land & Produce Co., Ltd. ...	12	996
N. G. Perera, Esq. Hilland Estate ...	1	50	Yellangowry Estate ...	1	100
Stubton Estate ...	6	504	Deaculla Estate ...	11	968
The Dimbula Valley (Ceylon) Tea Co., Ltd. ...	19	1,805	Ashbourne Estate ...	1	90
Suduganga Tea Co., Ltd., ...	1	70	Ambalawa Estate ...	1	80
Mount Pleasant Tea Co., Ltd., ...	4	300	Kobuagedera Estate ...	5	400
Broughton Tea Co., Ltd., ...	4	400	W. C. Hawkes, Esq. ...	2	100
The Ceylon Land and Produce Co., Ltd., ...	12	996	Total ...	111	9,155
R. Maclure, Esq. ...	5	250	Previously ...		126,240
Gartmore ...			Total to date...		135,395

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

List No. 8.

	Rs. cts.		Rs. cts.
F. H. Layard ...	100 00	H. A. Beachcroft ...	250 00
Kelaneiya Estate ...	150 00	Ceylon Planters' One	
Ekolsund Estate ...	75 00	Day's Pay Fund	4,107 87
Udasgeria Estate ...	100 00	Total	5,929 87
H. S. Cameron ...	150 00	Previously	16,740 65
Blackwood Estate ...	400 00		
Miss B. Rushton ...	25 00		
Talgaswela Tea Co. of Ceylon, Ltd. ...	800 00	Deduct expenses already published	8,344 12
Kandy Snookers ...	2 00		
The Hon. Secretary, Punduloya, P. A. Ceylon Coconut Co., Ltd., per Messrs. Aitken Spence & Co. ...	250 00	Balance in Bank	19,825 90

In the first list published last month, the contribution "Heatherley" 1,000 lbs., should read "Hatherleigh 1,000 lbs."

(Signed) HEW KENNEDY,
Chairman and Acting Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Correspondents are permitted to adopt a *nom-de-plume* for publication, but must in every case authenticate their letters to the Editor. While a free ventilation of ideas and opinions is welcomed it must not be assumed that the opinions expressed by correspondents in these columns represent the views of the Editor or the Controlling Committee of the Gazette.

THE EDITOR,

"Planting Gazette."

The P. A. and the Labour Question.

SIR,

The Planters' Association of Ceylon is a time-honoured institution, and it has a record of services rendered to its own community—and to the Government of the country—probably equal to that of any similarly constituted body of honorary workmen in the world.

Nevertheless, it cannot hide that which I am reluctantly compelled to describe as a blot on its escutcheon:—I refer to the fact that during all its long life the Planters' Association of Ceylon has never determinedly, unanimously (and thereby effectively), tackled the labour question.

I do not imply that the P. A. has done nothing at all in this connection, that would be to exhibit gross ignorance of facts. Some more or less carefully considered legislation during the past fifty years, and the creation, and almost unanimous support, of the Ceylon Labour Commission, are proofs of considerable and praiseworthy activity of the Association's members. But, Sir, that is not enough—not enough to justify, and hold, the position claimed by our name and by our motto.

While fully realising that there are matters in connection with the labour question which cannot be entirely decided by the ordinary working members of the P. A., I

am equally certain that there is one fundamentally important matter that never has been, and never will be, put on anything like a satisfactory basis unless, and until, the working superintendent members determine, through the organisation of the Association, to put right what is wrong—and that matter is *the interchange of labour from one estate to another.*

The situation could doubtless be much improved by legislation. It can never be improved by any federation of proprietary or agency interests less completely representative than is the Planters' Association of Ceylon to-day. If this is doubted I ask your readers to look back on past efforts of co-operation outside the Association, and then to consider the present situation. What have we got as the result of our past efforts? We have the Proprietors' Labour Federation—an unselfish, earnest section of Ceylon proprietors—penalising themselves, and being worked against by another section of Ceylon proprietors, a costly scheme—though administered by a loyal unpaid Committee—working in a labyrinth of rules, forms, returns, and a maze of interpretations. Where are we to-day? Not a yard further on the road towards the goal of a more sufficient, more efficient, less indebted labour force than we were a quarter of a century ago.

Where can the P. L. F. take us? What can it possibly do for Ceylon Proprietary interests? As a worker for, and supporter of, all these outside efforts, I regretfully subscribe my opinion nothing.

What can, and should, the Planters' Association of Ceylon do in the matter? I purpose making a suggestion. It is said—I have heard it said—that any attempt on the part of the P. A. to frame rules for its members in the matter of labour reform would wreck the whole concern. I do not believe it for a moment. I go further than that and I say that if the P. A. is to cease to exist it could wish for no more fitting end than to die in the earnest endeavour to do its obvious and bounden duty.

But why should anything of the sort happen? It will not. Its members are not made of such poor stuff. Every conglomeration of Englishmen—be it Association, Company, or Club, are accustomed to have their rules altered from time to time as is believed by the majority of the members to be for the ultimate benefit of all. When once the Planters' Association has decided to take action in this all-important matter of the transfer of labour from one estate to another, many and more valuable rules may be suggested, but each should be considered on its merits, and I propose the following:—

“That no member of the Planters' Association of Ceylon shall take into his employ labourers from the estate of another member by means of the document known as a “Tundu” during the two periods March 1st to May 31st and September 1st to November 30th (inclusive dates.)”

This to be a rule of the Association and to be in force on and from the 1st March, 1915.

In short, the suggestion is the establishment of a “close season” for the use of that deadly weapon the “Tundu.” I feel, Sir, that this is a proposition that will appeal to all working proprietors and superintendents without further argument from me, and I cannot conceive any justifiable opposition from an absentee proprietor, or his agent in Ceylon. As to the unquestionable benefits of such a proposal being carried into effect, I need only remind any fellow-planters of the remarkable and entirely satisfactory situation that arose in August last, on the outbreak of war.

Without any rules, without any agreements, we suddenly found ourselves acting unanimously. What was the immediate result? Nobody was “taking any” in the way of “Tundus,” and at once a stop was put to “advance” demands, and without any murmurs we could make the legal monthly recoveries.

A happy situation indeed and reflected daily in the conversations of superintendents wherever they foregathered. The saving to proprietors during those first four months of the war must have been very considerable, and I am satisfied by investigation that we all experienced less trouble from shortage of labour. The fact is that there is generally sufficient labour in the country if only we did not indulge and encourage its peripatetic habits.

I trust, Sir, that we are not intending to lightly forget the valuable lesson we have so cheaply and easily learned, and that some such proposal as I have suggested will be approved and put in force by the Planters' Association of Ceylon without delay.

I hope at least that district P. A.'s will discuss and express their opinion of the proposal and report their views to the Parent body.

I am, Sir,

Yours, etc.,

“G”

Planters and the Newspapers.

DEAR SIR,

Forgive my trespassing on your space, but I have read all the letters that have appeared in the daily papers lately, on planting subjects and I prefer not to be numbered among that galère. How is it that planters are not satisfied with seeing their effusions in their own “Gazette,” instead of inflicting the outside world with them. One reads really wonderful vituperations anent the Parent Association, screeds on the question of a Planters' Union, and general destruction on the heads of the Agents, these voracious folk and all for the sake of 2½ per cent!! Do these literateurs ever realise the folly of combining the idea of a Planters' Union with a Planters' Association? These two have not even as much in common as diametrical opposites, they run in totally different lines. One has as its object representation the opinions of Planters in planting affairs, and the other is a combination by individuals to hold a pistol to the head of “Capital,” to dictate terms not on planting questions but merely on matters personal to the Planter

Taking the question of the Planters' Association first: What is all this excitement about the P. A. not having power, and its operations being in the hands of the few, and not voicing Public Opinion? Any more futile grounds for fault-finding can hardly be imagined. Power! Why should it have power? How can it have power? It was not appointed by the Home Government to run the Island. It was not even appointed by the shareholders and directors to manage estates, though, to read some of these diatribes, one might really think it was.

Do these people who grumble realise that in nine cases out of ten they are only allowed to vote, or have any say in matters by the courtesy of their employers, who only tolerate it because they know such a vote carries little weight. Of course, proprietors are on a different footing, and they represent what the Planters' Association originally was. Now owing to centralization of the industry, many private owners have sold out to companies, and the managers of these companies have the say in the working of affairs, not the employees, who are really only managers of departments. Imagine for instance, in a big business concern at Home, say Messrs. William, Selfly & Co. if all the managers of the different departments, the tailor, the hatter, the draper, etc., formed a "Shoppies Association" would they expect to have an absolute control not only over the management of the concern in particular but the State in general!! Power! of course there is no power, and the sooner we become disillusionized the better. The P. A. justifies its existence in that it is an advisory body and the powers that be, are glad to have its opinions, and advice to which they give their most careful consideration, but to imagine that every utterance from the P. A. chair is an edict that must be carried out whether by Government or companies is folly.

As regards its operations being in the hands of the few and not voicing public opinion, anyone who has been present at meetings, and followed the working of the Committee, would know that every help and encouragement is given to any new person who has anything to say. Every Committee man cannot be a "Demosthenes" but time is given for even the most stage-frightened individual to speak. As the Committee consists of well over 100 men its operations can hardly be considered to be in the hands of the few. If out of this 100 the majority do not voice public opinion, it must be that D. P. A.'s do not sufficiently instruct their representatives with their opinion or that the representatives do not take the trouble to come. If the distance is too great for them, the D. P. A. should elect others who are willing to do something *pro bono publico*. It may be that this "grouse" about the P. A. starts in the breast of some disappointed would-be orator, who is not elected to the Kandy Committee. I feel sure that if a hint was dropped by him that he would serve, his D. P. A. would be delighted to nominate him, provided they considered his opinion worth airing, but perhaps the hint has been dropped and his D. P. A. is not of this opinion. Surely this must be the unkindest cut of all!!

As regards the Planters' Union, whatever useful purpose will it serve? Does anyone imagine that the Government or directors of companies will pay any more attention to a Union of Planters than they do to an Association. I can imagine some stalwart socialist replying No! but it will make the agents redress our wrongs, Alas! poor agent what has he done? Does he not pay sufficient salary? Are we worth more? If so, let us join another firm. Do agents combine to keep salaries down? Let us give up this hard life and take up another where one's worth is appreciated. Joking apart, in what other business or profession can a young man come out from Home, knowing nothing whatever of his subject, and earn the same salary in so short a time and for so small an outlay in premiums and so short an apprenticeship.

No! A Union is not wanted. Why try and butt against a stone wall, and get up "agin" the agents. The agents are not to blame for the present state of affairs, nor is the P. A. *Autres temps autres mœurs*, formerly the P. A. was an Association of Proprietary Planters, who could control finances, and have a certain amount of power, now it is an Association of working planters employed by financiers, and there lies the difference in a nutshell.

If the P. A. is to continue to serve the useful purpose it has done in the past, the only course that seems open is to put our cards on the table, go to Government and the Estate Agents' Association and say that we quite realize that we have not the right to order this, that and the other to be done or spent, but we wish to be considered an advisory body, and ask them if they will meet us in the matter by referring matters that concern planters and the planting industry to the P. A. and listen to the views of the man on the spot before they act one way or other. Thus we shall continue to have an interest in the Island's welfare, and not only in the tea bush at our feet.

I, Etc.,

"CAVENDO TUTUS."

Companies and the Tea Gift.

THE EDITOR,

"PLANTING GAZETTE."

SIR,

The season is approaching when most of our local Companies hold their Annual General Meetings, and I am sanguine enough to anticipate that most of these meetings will be satisfactory to both shareholders and directors. There must be however, very many shareholders who are, like myself, disgusted at the refusal of certain directors to let their companies—and our company as well—contribute to the Ceylon Tea Fund. Our disgust is increased by the knowledge that the opposition to the Fund that is displayed in certain well-defined quarters in Colombo is not inspired by any objection to a gift of tea being made, nor by a desire to retain every cent of possible revenue for the benefit of shareholders, but solely with the idea of giving "a smack in the eye" to the Planters' Association of Ceylon who started the Fund.

Luckily there is nothing that the Colombo Director hates more than criticism; which, especially when it comes from up-country, he regards as an impertinence, and to avoid which he will go to considerable lengths, and with this in view, as very little can be accomplished without organised effort, I make the following suggestion.

Shareholders in both tea and rubber companies, who are willing to assist, to send to the Editor, "Planting Gazette," their names and the following information—all of which will, of course, be treated as confidential:—

1. Name of Company
2. No. of shares held
3. Agents and Secretaries of Company
4. Agents of estate on which shareholder is employed
5. Will shareholder take an active part in the proceedings or will he give a proxy?

Should sufficient support be given to my proposal, you, Sir, with this information at your disposal should be able to organize an effective campaign that should result in much good to the Tea Fund.

I am, Sir,
Yours, etc.,
"THE MILLION."

[NOTE BY EDITOR:—We will be very pleased to undertake any duties that will be of any material benefit to the fund in question. When one considers that given the universal support of proprietors of Tea and Rubber Estates only, the cost to them would approximate a mere one-tenth per cent on their capital, it is hard to believe that such support has been in many cases withheld hitherto.]

Stonycliff, Kotagala,
January 20th, 1915.

THE EDITOR,
"Planting Gazette,"

DEAR SIR,

Would it not be possible to get out from Home a good dentist for the P.A. At present we are in the hands of a few men in Colombo who charge what they like. I am sure a good man could be easily got at Home. He could practice at Kandy and attend Planters at fixed fees. The planters would, I am certain, only be too glad to pay him a retaining fee each year the same as we do the Doctor in Dimbula.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
G. COX SCOTT.

THE EDITOR,
"Planting Gazette,"
(through the Hon. the Govt. Agent, W.P.),
Kandy.

No. 17, Ragama Camp,
7th January, 1915.

SIR,

Subject:—Cooly Bills.

I have the honour to inform you that Estate Superintendents frequently complain, both directly and through

the Hon. the Government Agent, Western Province, that the Cooly Bills referred to in Reminder Postcards from the Kachcheri have never reached them.

2. It would appear that many Estate Superintendents do not realise that the slips of paper, enclosed in registered envelopes received from me, are the bills for the expenses of the Coolies to whom the accompanying Certificates and "Tins" relate.

3. I would therefore ask you to point out that Tin Ticket Coolies' Bills are now enclosed in the registered covers containing their Certificates; and to request any Superintendents, who may receive a registered cover containing Certificates and Tins but no Bills, to immediately communicate with me.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) CHAS. B. COCKAINE,
Superintendent.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

THE CIVIL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Colombo, 27th January, 1915.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association, Kandy.

Medical Wants Ordinance No. 9 of 1912.

SIR,

I have the honour to invite your attention to the notification dated the 20th inst. published in the Ceylon Government Gazette No. 6695 of the 22nd inst., page 55, part 1 regarding the amended rule No. 21 of the rules framed under section 32 (1) of the Medical Wants Ordinance No. 9 of 1912.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. T. RUTHERFORD,
for P.C.M.O., and I.G.H.

(Amended rule referred to.)

21. Estate hospitals, dispensaries and latrines constructed subsequent to these rules coming into force shall be in accordance with plans approved by the Medical Wants Committee. Copies of type plans can be obtained on application to the Secretary, Medical Wants Committee, Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo.

PLAGUE COMMITTEE OFFICE.

H. M. Customs,
Colombo, 26th January, 1915.

Ordinance No. 3 of 1897.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association, Kandy.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose herewith copy of Government notification of the 29th September, 1914, publishing

rule 35 (d)—an addition to the Rules under the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance No. 3 of 1897, and to request that if you think fit the attention of the Planting Community may be drawn to the rule.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) F. BOWES,
Chairman, Plague Committee.

(Extract from the Ceylon Government Gazette No. 6,663 of October 2, 1914.)

"THE QUARANTINE AND PREVENTION OF DISEASES
ORDINANCE, 1897."

It is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 4 of "The Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance, 1897," and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to make the regulation set out in the schedule hereto to be added to Part 1 of the regulations published

by notification dated July 25th, 1914, and to be numbered 35 (d).

by His Excellency's Command,
(Signed) R. E. STUBBS,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29th, 1914.

SCHEDULE.

35. (d) Provided also that it shall be lawful for the proper authority to allow coolies working under an estate Superintendent or other responsible employer to proceed to their destination, on completion of such minimum period of observation as the Principal Civil Medical Officer may fix, previously advising their employer as to the number of days for which the coolies thus forwarded should be placed under observation by him. The Estate Superintendent or other responsible employer shall observe any instructions as regards observation or surveillance of such new arrivals which the proper authority shall thus impose.

(Extract from the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,697 of February 5, 1915.)

Whereas Shot-hole Borer (*Xyleborus forficatus*, Eich.) is present on the estates and groups enumerated in the list following that is to say:—

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

Accrawatta estate ... Kotmale	Doombagastalawa estate ... Kotmale	Hatala estate ... Wattagama
Agrawatta estate ... Watawala	Dromoland estate ... Gammaduwa	Havilland estate ... Dolosbage
Allakolla estate ... Madulkele	Duckwari estate ... Rangala	Heilbottle estate ... Pussellawa
Alma group ... Maturata	Dunally estate ... Galaha	Hillside estate ... Nawalapitiya
Ambalawa estate ... Gampola	Edward Hill estate ... Pussellawa	Hindugalla estate ... Peradeniya
Ambalamana estate ... Galaha	Elfindale estate ... Watawala	Hopewell estate ... do
Anniawatte estate ... Kandy	Farm group ... Kadugannawa	Horagalla estate ... Dolosbage
Ascot estate ... Gampola	Fettercairn estate ... Kotmale	Hunaseriya group ... Wattagama
Ashbourne estate ... Nawalapitiya	Galaha estate ... Galaha	Hunford estate ... Nawalapitiya
Atgalla estate ... Gampola	Galata estate ... Gampola	Imboopittia estate ... do
Attahagie estate ... do	Galgodakelle estate ... Hewaheta	Jak Tree Hill estate ... Gampola
Augusta estate ... Peradeniya	Gallamudena estate ... Dolosbage	Kadumbagunadawatte estate ... do
Barnagalla estate ... Nawalapitiya	Gallantenne estate ... Galaha	Kadawella estate ... Watawala
Blackwater estate ... do	Gallawattie estate ... Watawala	Kadien Lena group ... Kotmale
Bollagalla estate ... Kandy	Gallebottle estate ... Galboda	Kaipooagalla estate ... Pundaluoya
Bowhill estate ... Nawalapitiya	Galphele group ... Wattagama	Kalooagalla estate ... Pussellawa
Bowlana group ... Deltota	Gampolawattie estate ... Pussellawa	Kanapediawatte estate ... Ulapane
Breaside estate ... Ulapane	Gangwarilly estate ... Dolosbage	Karagabattenne estate ... Gammaduwa
Bridgend estate ... Nawalapitiya	Gillardstown estate ... Wattagama	Kataboola estate ... Kotmale
Cabragalla estate ... Madulkele	Glenfern group ... Ulapane and Rambukpitiya	Kellie group ... Dolosbage
Carolina estate ... Watawala	Glenariff estate ... Hatton	Kirimitia estate ... Kadugannawa
Carolina No. 2 estate ... do	Gona Adika estate ... Gampola	Kitoolamoola estate ... Galaha
Cattarem estate ... Dolosbage	Gonapitiya (Uplands) estate ... Maturata	Kolapatna estate ... Kotmale
Cholankande estate ... Nawalapitiya	Gonavy estate ... Deltota	Lammermoor estate ... Watawala
Coolhawn estate ... do	Goorookoya group ... Nawalapitiya	Lantern Hill group ... Gampola
Coorunduwatte estate ... Peradeniya	Great Valley ... Deltota	Laxapanagalla estate ... Watawala
Craighead estate ... Nawalapitiya	Greenwood estate ... Nawalapitiya	Leangwelle division (Alma group) ... Maturata
Dalleagles estate ... Dolosbage	Greymount division (Alma group) ... Maturata	Leo estate ... Gampola
Dartry group ... Gampola	Goomera estate ... Madulkele	Le Vallon group ... Galaha
Damblagolla estate ... Undugoda	Hagalla estate ... do	Little Valley estate ... Deltota
Delta estate ... Pussellawa	Haloya group ... Lindula	Looecondra estate ... do
Dambagalla estate ... Ulapane	Hangraooya estate ... Nawalapitiya	Loolgama division (Duckwari estate) ... Rangala
Dedngalla estate ... Dolosbage	Hantane estate ... Kandy	Lonach estate ... Watawala
Deltota estate ... Galaha	Harangalla estate ... Kotmale	Luccombe estate ... Maskeliya
Denmark estate ... Ulapane	Hardenhuish estate ... Watawala	(Rutherford division) ... Madulkele
Donachie division (of the Gonapitiya Uplands) estate ... Maturata	Harmony estate ... Pussellawa	Madakelle estate ... do
Donnybrook estate ... Hatton	Harrow estate ... Pundaluoya	
Donside estate ... Nawalapitiya		

Mahaousa estate ... Madulkele	Oonoogaloya estate ... Kotmale	Sheen estate ... Pundaluoya
Mahavilla estate ... Ulapane	Orion estate ... Gampola	Sinnapittia estate ... Gampola
Maskeloya estate ... Dolosbage	Orwell group ... do	Sogama estate ... Pussellawa
Mastuawatta estate ... Galboda	Panwila estate ... Wattagama	Somerset estate ... Gampola
Meddecombra estate ... Watagoda	Parragalla estate ... Nawalapitiya	St. Aubin's estate ... Watawala
Meenagalla estate ... Dolosbage	Patiagama estate ... Deltota	St. Catherine's estate ... Dolosbage
Meewatura estate ... Ulapane	Peacock Hill estate ... Pussellawa	St. Clive estate ... Nawalapitiya
Monte Cristo estate ... Nawalapitiya	Penrhos group ... Galboda	St. Helen's estate ... Dolosbage
Moolgama estate ... Galaha	Poongalla estate ... Madulkele	St. John's Wood estate ... Wattagama
Morankande estate ... Galagedera	Pooprassie group ... Galaha	Sugurugalla group ... do
Mosville group ... Dolosbage	Rajawella estate ... Kandy	Tembiligalla estate ... Ulapane
Mount Vernon ... Kotagala	Ranawella estate ... Gampola	Theberton estate ... Watawala
Mowbray estate ... Peradeniya	Rangbodde estate ... Ramboda	Udapalata estate ... Ulapane
Mousagalla estate ... Dolosbage	Itavensraig estate ... Nawalapitiya	Vedehette East estate ... Galaha
Mount Pleasant estate ... Peradeniya	Raxawa estate ... Wattagama	Vedehette West estate ... do
Nayapane estate ... Pussellawa	Riverdale estate ... Hewaheta	Vellai Oya estate ... Hatton
New Forest estate ... Galaha	Riverside estate ... Nawalapitiya	Waitalawa estate ... Urugala
New Peradeniya estate ... Peradeniya	Rondura group ... do	Waragallanda estate ... Madulkele
Nichola Oya estate ... Rattota	Rosehill estate ... Gampola	Warriagalla estate ... Kandy
Nilambe estate ... Galaha	Rosawatta estate ... Kandy	Warriapolla estate ... Matale
Norton estate ... Hatton	Rosehill estate (the Train- ing Colony) ... Peradeniya Junction	Watawella estate ... Rozelle
North Vedehette estate ... Galaha	Rothschild estate ... Pussellawa	Wavahena estate ... Pundaluoya
Nugawella estate ... Ulapane	Rutland estate ... Hewaheta	Weliganga estate ... Ulapane
Old Haloya estate ... Lindula	Sanquhar estate ... Gampola	Weyweltalawa estate ... Galboda
Old Medagama estate ... Galaha	Seaforth estate ... Dolosbage	Windsor Forest estate ... Dolosbage
Old Peradeniya estate ... Peradeniya		Yahalatenne estate ... Kandy
Oloowatte estate ... Deltota		Yarrow estate ... Pussellawa
Oonankande estate ... Dolosbage		
PROVINCE OF UVA.		
Agratenne division (Ury group) ... Badulla	Golconda estate ... Haputale	Passara division (Ury group) ... Badulla
Arnhall estate ... Bandarawela	Gonakelle estate ... Passara	Poonagalla group ... Bandarawela
Batgodde estate ... Haputale	Gowerakelle estate ... Demodera	Ury division (Ury group) ... Badulla
Blarneywattie estate ... Passara	Lower Lyegrove estate ... Haputale	Wevekellie estate ... Namunukula
Blackwood estate ... Haputale	Macaldeniya estate ... Koslanda	Wiharegalla estate ... Haputale
Southam estate ... Demodera	Mahapahagalla division (Ury group) ... Badulla	
Dickapitiya estate ... Haputale		
WESTERN PROVINCE.		
Arapolakande estate ... Tebuwana	Ferriby estate ... Puwakpitiya	Waharaka estate ... Undugoda
Avisawella estate ... Puwakpitiya	Maldeniya estate ... Dehiowita	Walpola group ... Dehiowita
Elston estate ... do	Neuchatel group ... Neboda	
PROVINCE OF SABARAGAMUWA.		
Ambalakande estate ... Aranayaka	Gonagama estate ... Kitulgala	Narangalla estate ... Aranayaka
Avington estate ... Yatiyantota	Halgolla estate (Hal- golla group) ... Yatiyantota	Panawatta estate ... Yatiyantota
Clunes estate ... do	Kelani estate ... do	Punugalla estate (Hal- golla group) ... do
Donoughmore estate ... Aranayaka	Kinross estate ... do	Pondappe estate ... Aranayaka
Ettie estate ... Kegalla	Kiriporuwa estate ... do	Udabage estate ... Yatiyantota
Footprint group ... Ingiriya	Lavant estate ... do	Weweltalawa estate ... do
Galatura estate ... Ratnapura	Maryland estate ... Aranayaka	Yataderiya estate ... Kegalla
Ganapalla estate ... Yatiyantota	Milligatenne estate ... do	Yellangowery estate ... Aranayaka
Glenalmond estate ... Aranayaka	Mipitiyakande estate ... Yatiyantota	
Golinda group ... Kegalla		

Under regulations published in the "Ceylon Government Gazette" No. 6,675 of October 23, 1914, the said estates and groups are hereby declared to be and are in quarantine.

Royal Botanic Gardens,
Peradeniya, January 30, 1915.

R. N. LYNE
Director of Agriculture.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.

The month of December shows no improvement in recruiting returns. The serious effect of the War scare is still being felt, and I fear it will take some time to reassure the cooly classes. The total number of coolies actually recruited for the year 1914 is 70,654 as compared with 97,564 during 1913. The actual number of coolies shipped from

all Ports and passed during 1914 is 68,669 as against 94,001. The appended comparative statements speak for themselves.

PROSPECTS OF RECRUITING
for the first quarter of 1915 are not very bright.

VILLUPURAM AGENCY.

The paddy harvest is expected to be a good one, owing to good weather, and coolies will be busily engaged harvesting in January and February. If Kanganies are sent

here, coolies should be obtainable later, although rumours of war will doubtless have their effect in restricting emigration.

CHINGLEPUT AGENCY.

These are said to be poor unless the war ceases. The cooly classes are afraid to cross to Ceylon since the "Emden" shelled Madras. A large number of coolies go from here to Madras to work and these people returning are spreading all sorts of wild rumours. When the "Emden" shelled Madras 20,000 people are said to have come to this district and stayed for a time.

KATPADI AGENCY.

Harvest of paddy has commenced. It will be short in Nellore and Gudiyatam Taluks, so recruiting prospects will be fair in those taluks. The rest of the district have had good rain and a good harvest is expected. The groundnut market is still depressed, they are not saleable now at any price.

ARKONAM AGENCY.

Prospects of recruiting for next year are not very bright. Tanks are all full, and the harvest is late. It is expected to be a good crop, and although early rains did not come, the late rains made up for that.

MADRAS TRANSPORTING AGENCY.

There is nothing to remark. The closing of Nellore and Puttur will lead to more coolies being registered in Madras.

PALGHAT AGENCY.

Not at all good at present, as there is a lot of work going on in the fields cultivating the second crop. Paddy is practically the only crop grown in Malabar. Wages are from annas 4 to annas 5 for men, annas 2 to annas 3 for women. Palghat taluk is inhabited by both Tamils and Malayalees.

PUDUCOTTAH AGENCY.

These are improving slightly as there is less work going on in the fields. Labour is available in Alangudi taluk, this being the chief taluk from which it is drawn. The groundnut season has begun, but there is no sale for the crop, this will, of course, lead to more labour going to Ceylon. The chief crops grown in Puducottah State are groundnuts, paddy, sugarcane and garden produce. Wages are from annas 4 to annas 5 for men, annas 3 for women.

SALEM AGENCY.

These are likely to be very poor for some months to come. Harvesting and work in the fields continues everywhere and all crops seem to be in very good condition. There has not been any rain about here for some little time but it looks as though we shall probably have some very shortly.

TINNEVELLY AGENCY.

Recruiting will be poor for two or three months. There has been very good rain. Wages are however low for the present. A lot of land has been flooded and there is no work to be had.

TATAPARAI AGENCY.

The report of lack of work in Ceylon due to the War may still deter labour from coming for some time. There has been too much rain here and the tanks are breached in many places. This is giving coolies work at present. But though crops may be good probably not so much land will be sown and after a bad two or three months labour may be plentiful. The price of rice is very high $3\frac{1}{2}$ measures to the rupees and dhall has risen also.

MANDAPAM AGENCY.

Since my last report the required rain has fallen and a good deal more. This means good harvests and therefore poor recruiting until about the beginning of April I should think.

DINDIGUL AGENCY.

Prospects for the next two months are not very good. There has been plentiful rainfall and in some places the tanks have been broken requiring labour to repair them. The price of foodstuff however is very high. Rice is $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{3}{4}$ measures and Ragi $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 measures.

RECRUITING, 1915.

I would point out that it is most essential in every case to provide recruiters with Ceylon Labour Commission Certificates to be exhibited in the villages in which they are operating. The certificate bearing, as it should do, the signature of the Superintendent is a guarantee of good faith, and further, it may be of considerable assistance to the recruiter, should he come in contact with any Government Official. These certificates should be carefully filled in and I would specially draw attention to Section 16 which provides space for information as to whether free passage is given and for any other advantageous conditions which exist on Estates that other Sections do not embody. Supplies of these certificates in Tamil, Malayalam, Canarese or Telugu can be obtained on application for which no charge is made.

FORWARDING AGENCY AT DHANUSHKODI.

This forwarding Agency was opened at Dhanushkodi on the 1st of January, to which coolies from subscribing Estates may be directed. If these coolies are furnished with the fare and meal orders that have been issued to Superintendents, they will be met by the Commission Agent, and tickets will be purchased and meals issued as required. The fare and meal orders previously issued for use in connection with the Colombo and Tuticorin Agencies should be used, the necessary alterations being made by the issuing Superintendent.

I venture to impress upon Superintendents the desirability of utilising this Forwarding Agency to the fullest extent, as it not only ensures that their recruiters arriving in South India are protected from molestation and extortion at Dhanushkodi, but that it is only necessary to make them an exceedingly small cash advance prior to their departure from the Estate. Through booking is now possible from all

stations in the Ceylon Government Railway to all stations on the South Indian and Madras and Southern Mahratta systems, and in cases where booking is only effected as far as Dhanushkodi, rebooking can be undertaken through the Forwarding Agency.

AGENCIES TO BE CLOSED.

Tondi Agency will be discontinued as from the 1st February and reopened at Ramnad as soon after that date as possible. In the meantime Superintendents are requested to direct recruiting Kanganies to Mandapam Agency. Owing to the closure of the Ceylon Government Emigration Camp at Tondi, it is not now possible to ship emigrants from that port.

Chittoor Forwarding Agency not having justified its existence has been closed and a new Agency will be shortly opened at Polur, of which notice will be given. Polur is situated on the South Indian Railway midway between Katpadi and Villupuram, in the centre of North Arcot district.

The Telugu Agencies of Nellore and Guntur have been closed and Superintendents, who are operating in the Telugu country and do not utilise either Cuddapah or Guntakal Agencies, are requested to direct their Kanganies to take their coolies to Madras.

MOHAMEDAN RECRUITERS.

I should like to warn Superintendents against the employment of these individuals who are in the habit of obtaining A. Forms on Ceylon Estates. The result has invariably been that the Estate has ultimately lost money and has not obtained a good stamp of labour. Unless a Mohamedan recruiter has an old-established connection in Ceylon, he may be, as a rule, classed as a professional recruiter of an undesirable type having no interest in the labour he recruits beyond the Commission and advances he obtains from the Estate concerned, the latter he as a rule fails to liquidate. These Mohamedans having established a connection of an indifferent class of labour on one Estate, in order to obtain the status of a Head Kangany, then obtain A. Forms to recruit for others. The labour recruited is not of a desirable type and unlikely to settle in Ceylon for any length of time even should they reach the estate for which they are recruited, a large percentage of them bolting before they leave India. A reference to this Commission before employing these recruiters is certainly advisable.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly,
16th, January, 1915.

Comparative Statement Showing Number of Coolies Despatched From all Ports-1912, 1913 & 1914.

1912.								1913.								1914.							
Through the Ceylon Labour Commission																							

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.—Recruiting Prospects for January to March, 1915.

B.—Bad. HEAD QUARTER CIRCLE :—	F.—Fair. Head Quarter Circle :— (Continued.)	G.—Good. SALEM CIRCLE :— Salem Agency.	B.—Bad. MADURA CIRCLE :— Madura Agency.	F.—Fair. Telugu & Arcot Circles :— (Continued.)	G.—Good. Telugu & Arcot Circles :— (Continued.)
Manapalai Agency.	Tiruthurai- poondi Taluk F	Salem Town B	Madura Taluk B	Karvet- nagar Taluk B	Gingee Taluk F
Kulitalai Taluk F	Palghat Agency.	Salem Taluk B	Melur " F	Madanapalli " F	Kallakurichi " F
Kolatur " F	Palghat Taluk F	Omalar " B	Periakulam " B	Punganur " F	Tindivanam " F
Keeranor " F	Erode Agency.	Trichengode " B	Nitacottai " F	Chendrayiri " B	Tirukovilur " F
Tirumayam " F	Erode Taluk F	Uttengarni " B	Tirumangalam " F	North Arcot " B	Virudachelan " F
Melur " F	Palladam " F	Hosur " B	Dindigul Agency.	Gudiyatam " F	Cuddapah Agency.
Puducottah Agency.	Bavani " F	Krishnagiri " B	Dindigul Taluk F	Vellore " F	Cuddapah Taluk F
Alangudi Taluk G	Gobichetty- palam " F	Dharmapuri Agency.	Palani " F	Walaja " B	Jammala- madugu " G
Kolatur " G	Avanasi " F	Dharmapuri Taluk B	Tiruppuvanam " B	Polur " B	Prodatur " B
Tirumayam " G	Peria Dhara- puram " F	Atur Agency.	Tirupattur " B	Arni " B	Badvel " G
Cannanore Agency.	Satiamanga- lam " F	Atur Taluk F	Sathur " B	Wandiwash " B	Sidhout " G
Cherakal Taluk G	Udumalpet " F	Kuppam Agency.	Srivilliputur " B	Tiruvanna- malai " B	Pullampet " G
Kottayam " G	Pollachi " F	Kangudi Taluk F	Rasiyaman- galam " B	Arkonam Agency.	Royachoty " G
Kurumbanad " G	Kollegal " F	Namakkal Agency.	Sivaganga " B	Arkonam Taluk B	Pulivendla " B
Calicut " G	Arantangi Agency.	Namakkal Taluk B	Tinnevely Agency.	Cheyar " B	Guntur " B
Wynad " G	Tanjore Taluk F	Musiri Agency.	Tenkasi Taluk F	Puthur and " B	Narasarowpet " G
Ponani " G	Pattukottai " F	Musiri Taluk F	Tinnevely " F	Karvetnagar " B	Satnapalli " G
Waluvanad " G	Tiruthurai- poondi " F	Kulitalai " F	Nanguneri " B	Chingleput Agency.	Bapatla " G
Ernad " G	Mannargudi " F	Perambalore " F	Kolpatti " B	Tiruvallur Taluk B	Tennaly " G
Palghat " G	Nannilam " F	Nanjangud Agency.	Sankarancoil " B	Ponneri " B	Anantapur " F
Tanjore Agency.	Mayaveram " F	Mysore " G	Tiruchendur " F	Chingleput " F	Dharmas- varam " F
Arantangi Taluk F	Shiyali " F	Narasipur Taluk F	Srivaikuntam " F	Conjeevaram " F	Kadiri " F
Kumbakonam " F	Papanasam " F	Channara- janagar " F	Trivandrum " F	Maduranta- kam " F	Gooty " F
Mannargudi " F	Shiyali " F	Gundlupet " F	TELUGU & ARCOT CIRCLES :—	Saidapet " F	Tadpatri " F
Nannilam " F	Arantangi " F	Yellandur " F	Chittoor Agency.	Villupuram Agency.	Bellary " B
Papanasam " F		Nanjangud " F	Chittoor Taluk F	Villupuram Taluk F	Royadurg " F
Pattukottai " F		Seringapatam " B	Kalastry " F	Cuddalore " F	Adoni " F
Shiyali " F		Nagaman- galam " F	Palamanari " F	Chidam- baram " F	Hospett " F
Tanjore " F			Vayalpad " F		Kurnool " B

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON, Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.—Strength Return for Month ending December, 1914.

DETAIL.	Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regtl. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sqd. P. M. Sergt.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	R. S. M. Instructor.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Total.	REMARKS.
Regtl. Staff	1	1	1	2	1	6	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	10	...	1	1	2	
A. Squadron	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	22	26	26	...	...	...	...	...
Staff	
No. I. Troop	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	22	24	25	...	...	...	...
" II. "	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	22	24	25	...	...	...	...
" III. "	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	2	25	32	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	27	33	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	...	1	1	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	...	...	71	87	91	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...
Staff	
No. I. Troop	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	19	25	...	...	...	...
" II. "	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	12	17	...	...	...	...
" III. "	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	24	27	...	...	...	...
" IV. "	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	17	19	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	5	72	90	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	1	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	72	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	72	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	1	3	8	1	16	1	1	1	1	2	12	1	1	8	5	5	143	181	197	...	1	1	2	
Total Strength	...	1	3	3	8	1	16	1	1	1	2	12	1	1	7	4	5	163	189	205	...	...	...	...
Total Strength last Return	
Increase Since	
Decrease Since	
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	3	
Wanting to Complete	
Reserve	...	1	4	5	11	1	22	1	2	2	1	17	1	1	10	6	5	163	211	233	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve...	
Contingent Troop	

A. E. ANDREWS, Captain,

Acting Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.—CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1914.

		VOLUNTEER STAFF.																	
Coy.	SECTION.	Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Sergt. Major.	Qr. M. Sergt.	Colour-Sergeant.	Sergeant.	Lance-Serjts & Corples.	Sergt.-Bugler.	Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.	Coy. Strength.	
	Staff
A.	Kelany Valley	1	1	...	2	32	86	65	
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	21
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8
B.	Kandy	1	1	1	...	21	24	57	
	Matale	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	14	16
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7
	Rangalla	1	9	10		
C.	Mattakelle	1	1	1	1	...	11	15	81	
	Agrapatna	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	8	11
	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	11	13
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	9
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	13	15
	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	8
	Punduloya	1	9	10		
D.	Nuwara Eliya	1	14	15	76	
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	6	8
	Haputale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	8
	Badulla	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	20	24
	Uda Pussellawa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	10
	Batticaloa	1	3	7	11		
E.	Kalutara	1	1	40	42	105	
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	18
	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	22	23
	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	11	14
	Trincomalie	1	7	8		
F.	Colombo	1	1	2	39	43	43	
G.	Ambegamuwa	1	1	14	16	44	
	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	10	11
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	15	17
	Contingent Company *	...	...	1	3	4	...	...	1	1	...	8	8	...	4	200	230
H.	Colombo	2	1	4	4	...	56	67	67	
	Motor Cycle Section	1	1	27	29	29	
* TOTAL STRENGTH		...	1	2	9	11	4	...	1	1	...	5	24	31	1	8	699	797	797
Strength by last Return		...	1	2	9	11	4	...	1	1	...	5	24	30	1	9	643	741	741
Increase Since		...													1		56	56	
Decrease Since		...																	

C. P. R. C. Reserve 9 Officers 51, Rank & File

... 60

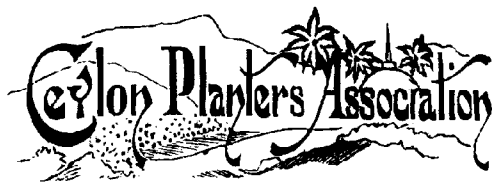
TOTAL.

Total Strength including Reserve

... 800

A. E. ANDREWS, Captain, Adjt. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

Includes 2nd lieutenants, 1 Sergeant, 36 Men C. M. R.



PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 8th January, 1915, at 2-30 p.m.

Present.—Mr. Hew Kennedy (Chairman, P.A. of Ceylon), Messrs. G. Finch Noyes (Maskeliya P.A.), L. C. Maudslay (Dickoya P.A.), T. G. Elliott (Badulla P.A.), G. Kent Deaker (Pussara P.A.), H. Tonks (visitor), H. North (Galaha, visitor), J. S. Patterson (Kandy), T. Y. Wright (Chairman, K.K. & Panwila P.A.), William Gibson (Haputale P. A.), J. Graeme Sinclair (Kandy), G. F. Farquharson (Kandy), Martin M. Smith (Kandy), C. D. Hunt (Hon. Secretary, K.K. & Panwila P. A.), M. L. Wilkins (Ambegamuwa P. A.), J. G. Napier (K.K. & Panwila P.A.), George Brown (Chairman, Sabaragamuwa P.A.), Wallace R. Westland (Kandy), M. H. Reeves (Chairman, Dolosbagie & Yakkessa P.A.), A. A. Franklin (Chairman, Kegalle P. A.), Walter C. Hawkes (Chairman, Hewaheta P.A.), Neill G. Campbell (Nuwara Eliya Districts P.A.), H. Inglis (Kalutara P.A.), W. A. Hall Hall (Ambadeniya, visitor), A. S. Long Price (Kandy), Nigel I. Lee (Kandy), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), A. M. Carmichael (Kelani Valley P. A.), Stanley Hillman (Kandy Districts P. A.), E. F. Home (Chairman, Kandy Districts P. A.), Gerald Abbott (Matale P. A.), A. Thorp (Matale P.A.), G. W. Hunter Blair (K.K. & Panwila P.A.), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P.A.), George Benzie (Pussellawa P.A.), John A. M. Bond (Matale P.A.), H. Seoble Nicholson (Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly), H. F. Laycock (Dickoya P.A.), J. L. Tancock (Kandy), T. Gidden (Kandy), L. St. G. Carey (Hewaheta P.A.), S. P. Blackmore (Ambegamuwa P.A.), E. C. Villiers (Hon. Secretary, Sabaragamuwa P.A.).—39 members and 4 visitors.

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy on Friday, the 11th December, 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at the meeting from Messrs. L. Bayly, C. A. Grant, H. S. Cameron, G. H. Masefield, Rodney Mylius, H. G. Eccles, F. H. Layard, A. A. Bowie, John B. Coles, A. J. Hamilton Harding, A. T. Sydney Smith, C. B. Prettejohn, J. F. W. Brockman, Huntley Wilkinson and Sir J. T. Bloom.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Read letter from Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association regarding jurisdiction and asking for advice as to procedure.

Resolved:—"That the opinion of our legal advisers be obtained, and sent to the Honorary Secretary, Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association."

Read letter from Sabaragamuwa P. A. regarding Government enquiry into labour conditions.

Read letter from Badulla P.A. regarding retrenchment in expenditure on roads.

Resolved:—"That this matter be left to the Chairman."

Read correspondence from Badulla P.A. regarding Land Settlement.

Resolved:—"That the Chairman and Messrs. Liesching and Lee be appointed a sub-Committee to draw up and send the necessary letters."

RESERVATIONS.

At the request of the Chairman, Badulla P.A., this matter was with the Committee's consent postponed till the next meeting.

Read correspondence regarding Mechanical Traction.

Resolved:—"That Mechanical Traction should be encouraged in every way, and that as the proposed tax on motor lorries is not calculated to add to the importation and use of them, the Hon. the Rural Member be asked to take the matter up."

INCORPORATION OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Submitted a report on the incorporation drawn up by Messrs. Liesching and Lee.

Resolved:—"That provided District Planters' Association's powers are not affected this Committee approves of incorporating the Planters' Association of Ceylon and that Messrs. H. F. Laycock, Nigel I. Lee and the Chairman be appointed a sub-Committee to approach the Attorney-General to enquire whether the project is feasible."

UPKEEP OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS.

Submitted an estimate of cost of repairing the buildings.

Resolved:—"That the Chairman and Messrs. A. S. Long Price and Martin M. Smith be appointed a sub-Committee to deal with these matters."

TREATMENT OF COOLIES IN HOSPITAL.

Read letter from the P.C.M.O.

KANDY SANITARY BOARD.

Read letter from the Government Agent, C.-P.

Resolved:—"That the name of Mr. Martin M. Smith be submitted in place of Mr. John Still."

RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

Read letter from the Rubber Growers' Association.

DEAR SIR,

At a recent meeting of the Council of the Rubber Growers' Association the question of having representatives in the rubber-growing colonies and States was considered, and it was unanimously decided that the industry would materially benefit by such representation.

It was felt that it would be unnecessary to form new associations if it were found possible to work with the existing organisations, and I am requested to ask if your association can see its way

to appoint a small Committee to act in the manner herein suggested.

I enclose an extract from the minutes to show what is the mind of the Council and these of course are merely directory and not necessarily to be considered hard and fast rules for forming the Committee.

It was suggested that amalgamation on the lines of the Thirty Committee on a smaller scale would probably meet the requirements of the case.

The work as representatives of this association would consist in bringing before the Council all and sundry matters that may suggest themselves for the good of the industry in general and Ceylon in particular, and keeping it advised upon any matters of importance which from time to time may arise.

The policy of the Colonial Office appears to be to grant to the local governments a large measure of freedom when dealing with matters affecting the plantation rubber industry, and indications have been given that representations made by recognised bodies in the various Eastern Colonies and Dependencies would be welcomed.

You will see in the extract from the minutes how we propose that the finance should be dealt with, and I will be pleased to receive suggestions from your side in regard to this.

It is the desire of the Council to co-operate cordially with the Ceylon representatives as it is felt that a mutual exchange of opinions upon the many points which periodically arise will be of immense benefit to the industry as a whole.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) FRANK C. SMITH.

SECRETARY.

ENCLOSURE TO LETTER TO PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

38, Eastcheap, London, 11th December, 1914.

At a meeting of the Council of the Rubber Growers' Association (incorporated) held on the 2nd November, 1914, the following report of the Committee appointed to consider the advisability of obtaining direct representatives of the Association in Malaya and Ceylon was unanimously adopted:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

Resolved:—"That the Committee are of opinion that it is desirable to arrange for representation of this Association in Ceylon and the Malay States.

They are of opinion that the best means of arranging for this as follows:—

11th December, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon,

Kandy, Ceylon.

(Paragraph referring to Malaya only).

That the Planters' Association of Ceylon be asked to appoint a small Committee consisting of eight planting members in conjunction with four mercantile members to be appointed by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

The Secretary and Chairman of the Planters' Association to be members ex-officio.

Such Committee to act as advisers and correspondents of the Rubber Growers' Association as well as their representatives in all matters affecting the interests of the rubber growing industry.

If these Associations are willing to undertake this work a reasonable sum should be voted annually in payment of the secretarial and office expenses.

(Signed.), FRANK C. SMITH,

SECRETARY.

Resolved:—"That the following gentlemen be asked to serve on the Committee in question as representatives of the Planters' Association: Messrs. J. Graeme Sinclair, M. M. Smith, Neill G. Campbell, E. C. Villiers, L. Bayly, H. Inglis, W. N. Tisdall, and G. H. Golledge with Chairman and Secretary, Planters' Association, ex-officio."

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, December 18th, 1914.

The CHAIRMAN,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

I am directed to transmit to you, for your information and for any observations which you may care to offer, the enclosed paraphrase of a telegram received by His Excellency the Governor from the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) M. A. YOUNG,
for Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary of State informs His Excellency that a deputation from the Rubber Growers' Association has urged that their European staff was being dangerously depleted owing to Press campaign in favour of recruiting and that the administration of the native labour was consequently becoming difficult. They urged that further encouragement of recruiting would have a deplorable effect on native labour and on the industry. They asked that Government should exercise discrimination in granting facilities to those who are desirous of returning to England to join the Army.

Secretary of State states that the deputation was informed that the matter is one which must be left to His Excellency's discretion.

Planters' Association of Ceylon.
Kandy, December 19th, 1914

THE HON'BLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th instant giving cover to copy of a paraphrase of a telegram received by His Excellency the Governor from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for which I thank you.

This matter will be submitted to my Committee for their consideration and an expression of their opinion at the meeting to be held on the 8th of January, 1915, but in the meanwhile in view of the possibility that some reply to the Secretary of State is contemplated by you I may perhaps usefully submit my personal views on the matter in question.

I understand that the only assistance rendered by Government in respect of Ceylon men volunteering for active service was training, financing and despatch of the Contingent Company of the C. P. R. C. which consisted of 230 men. Assuming that the number of planters in Ceylon totals approximately 2,500 it can hardly be suggested that by sending less than 10 per cent Government have in any way disregarded the possibility of depletion of estates.

It is true that a considerable number of men other than those enrolled in the Contingent Company have left the Island to volunteer at Home for active service, but I think I am right in saying that to such men Government has afforded no pecuniary

assistance, although in many cases assistance of this nature was given by their brother planters, friends and well-wishers.

I would further point out that the majority of these men are of but few years' standing in Ceylon and that their departure was not in my opinion affected the working of the estates, as the more responsible planters have stayed behind and are doing double work where required.

I trust that these remarks may be of some use to you pending the opinion expressed by my Committee, which will be submitted to you in due course.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed), HEW KENNEDY,

Chairman.

Resolved:—"That this Committee approve of the reply sent by the Chairman."

Read letter from Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, December 30th, 1914.

THE CHAIRMAN AND ACTING SECRETARY
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 24th November, 1914, forwarding a resolution passed at a meeting of your Association held on the 13th idem with regard to the military training of members of the European planting community, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to forward for the information of your Association a copy of the reply given to the following question put by the Rural Member at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th instant:—

"Whether Government will make a statement as to its intentions with regard to the future training and equipment of the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps."

I am, Sir,
(Signed) F. C. GIMSON,
FOR COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Certainly, Sir, the desire of Government is that the Corps, as recently enlarged, should have opportunities for doing itself for the performance of its duties as part of a defensive force of the Colony.

The Commandant, Ceylon Volunteer Force, informs that on the 13th of December, the officer commanding Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps, following the earlier example of the officer commanding Ceylon Mounted Rifles, whose Corps finishes its special training today, has put forward a proposal for calling out the corps for training in detachments. Government is advised that, mainly owing to the large number of recruits in the ranks, the corps is not at present in a state to profit by battalion training, and that what is required is a series of camps at which instruction of more elementary character can be given. It is proposed to make arrangements accordingly, probably about February next.

As regards equipment, the question of rifles was under consideration at the time when war broke out and it was in contemplation to re-arm the whole Volunteer Force with a new short rifle. In present circumstances it is impossible to proceed with the scheme for the reason that no short rifles are obtainable. For the present therefore the corps must be content with the existing arm but the matter will be taken up again as soon as circumstances permit.

NOTICE COOLIES.

Read letter from Mr. Guy Walker regarding Notice Coolies.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

Read letter from the Director of Agriculture regarding shot-hole borer.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. JOSEPH FRASER.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that unless there were reasons necessitating the immediate collection of donations in respect of the memorial in question it was desirable to postpone the matter for the present.

MEDICAL WANTS.

Read letter from the Sabaragamuwa P. A. regarding shortage of drugs in estate hospitals and dispensaries due to their inability to obtain same from Government.

Resolved:—"That on receipt of specific cases the Colonial Secretary be written to on the matter."

Read letter from Kalutara P. A. regarding the Pimbura Hospital.

Resolved:—"That the attention of the members of the Medical Wants Committee be drawn to this matter."

ISSUING OF RICE BY WEIGHT OR BY MEASURE.

Resolved:—"That the opinions of District P. A.'s be forwarded to the Estate Agents' Association as they come in."

CONCERT IN AID OF THE CEYLON TEA GIFT.

Resolved:—"That a concert be given on the 12th February for the above Fund, that the following are appointed an Executive Committee to deal with all matters in connection therewith:—Messrs. Hew Kennedy, A. S. Long Price, Nigel I. Lee, G. F. Farquharson, E. W. Keith, Carr Hammond, Martin M. Smith, T. Y. Wright, with power to add to their number."

CEYLON TEA GIFT.

Considered resolution submitted by the Kotmale P. A. "That the Planters' Association of Ceylon approach the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce desiring that body to put the matter of Ceylon's gift of tea before the board of every Company in Ceylon and in London as also individual proprietors of estates of whatever product, with a request that they circularise all shareholders to donate a certain quantity of tea to Ceylon Gift of Tea."

Resolved:—"That this procedure is approved and the Secretary be instructed to approach the Chamber of Commerce and invite their co-operation on the lines indicated in the resolution."

Read letter from the Ceylon Association in London:—
61-62, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.,
November 20th, 1914.

TO THE SECRETARY,
Ceylon Planters' Association,
Kandy, Ceylon.

DEAR SIR,

I am instructed by my Committee to beg your attention to the statements repeatedly made in the Ceylon press, notably in the report of the meeting of the Nuwara Eliya District Planters' Association held on 17th ultimo, that an offer of a gift of a million pounds of tea was made to Lord Kitchener by this Association.

Nobody but myself, connected with the Association, has had any communication with the War Office on the subject.

On 18th August I received from your Association, the following cablegram:—"Ceylon Association, 62, Gracechurch Street, London. Please ascertain whether gift Ceylon tea acceptable Military Authorities for use in field, kindly cable reply early. —STILL."

Acting on behalf of your Association, I at once forwarded a copy of the message to the War Office without comment. On the following morning, after communication through the telephone, the War Office elected to reply direct to your Association. Their cablegram, signed Kitchener, was published in the Ceylon papers of 20th August.

I have had no other communication of any kind with the War Office.

In a subsequent cablegram from Your Association received 21st August the words "we aim at million pounds" occur, and on the following morning a Reuter cablegram appeared in all the English papers, as follows:—"Colombo, 21st August. Lord Kitchener has cabled to Ceylon Planters' Association his grateful acceptance of the Association's offer of what will probably amount to a million pounds of tea for the use of troops in the field."

My Committee is of opinion that these facts should be made publicly known in Ceylon.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) Wm. MARTIN LEAKE.
SECRETARY.

Kandy, December 16th, 1914.

THE SECRETARY,

Ceylon Association in London,
61-62, Gracechurch Street, London E. C.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo, and as requested will bring the matter to the attention of my Committee in the first instance at the meeting to be held on the 8th of January, 1915.

Although I have on more than one occasion corrected the impression which appears to be fairly common that an offer of one million pounds of tea was made to Lord Kitchener, there is still a tendency towards the belief that such an offer was actually made.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) HEW KENNEDY.
CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.
PLANTING GAZETTE.

Read letter from Mr. F. S. Elson resigning his position on the Committee of the Planting Gazette.

Resolved:—"That his resignation be accepted and that Mr. F. C. Villiers be appointed in his place."

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

HEW KENNEDY,
Chairman and Acting Secretary.
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

THE THIRTY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" appointed to administer the proceeds of the export duty on tea levied under Ordinance No. 4 of 1894 for increasing the consumption of Ceylon tea in foreign lands, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 8th January, 1915, after the Planters' Association Committee Meeting.

Present:—Mr. Hew Kennedy (Chairman and Acting Secretary), Messrs. H. F. Laycock, William Gibson, Geo. Benzie, Martin M. Smith and G. C. Bliss.—Six Members.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the "Thirty Committee" held at Kandy, on Friday, the 13th November 1914, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed." Members of Committee. Submitted letter regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs H. Glyn Eccles, F. H. Layard, John B. Coles, C. B. Pretjohn and Sir J. T. Broom.

Read letter from Mr. N. W. Davies resigning his appointment on the Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Read letter received from the Colonial Secretary, follows:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, December 1st, 1914

THE SECRETARY TO THE "THIRTY COMMITTEE."
SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 17th November, 1914, am directed by His Excellency the Governor to state that an Ordinance to provide for the appropriation of a certain sum of money out of the Tea Cess Fund towards the Prince of Wales's War Fund and for providing a gift of tea to the Russian troops has been passed by the Legislative Council and forwarded to the Secretary of State for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure.

2. Authority cannot be granted to make the proposed payments until His Majesty's pleasure on the Ordinance is known. The Secretary of State has been asked to telegraph his reply.

3. As regards the proposal of the "Thirty Committee" hand over a sum of Rs. 15,000 to the Ceylon Tea Gift Scheme, His Excellency desires me to state that it is not possible to effect the object of the Committee.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) H. M. M. MOORE
for Colonial Secretary

Resolved:—"That the Chairman be requested to ascertain why the proposal in question is not feasible."

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Read letter from Professor Wyndham R. Dunst regarding the Ceylon Pavilion at the Imperial Institute

ANTI-TEA DUTY LEAGUE.

Read letter from the Secretary, Anti-Tea Duty League

ANTI-TEA DUTY LEAGUE.

33, Great Tower Street,
London E.C., November 20th, 1914

THE SECRETARY,

The "Thirty Committee,"
Kandy, Ceylon.

DEAR SIR,

You are, of course, already aware, by the medium of the *Planting Gazette*, of the increase in the Tea Duty, which has been raised this year to the old figure of 8d. per pound.

It is generally considered in London that it would be unexpedient at the present moment to take any definite action which might embarrass the hands of the Government in this crisis, and I understand that the Ceylon Association in London and the Indian Association have held a joint meeting at which this view has been officially adopted.

Nevertheless, I have addressed a letter to the "Times" protesting against the remarks in their issue of yesterday that it rests with them (i.e. the tea-drinkers) entirely whether they pay it or not. But if they do pay, they can obviously afford to do so, and they will have the satisfaction of knowing that their own enjoyment is for their country's benefit."

I have pointed out that this is a most ungenerous remark at the expense of a large number of the poorest of the poor who will now be forced to pay taxation approximating 100 per cent. *ad valorem* on the value of the tea they drink.

Furthermore I am laying official figures before one of our friends in the House of Commons showing the incidence of taxation upon tea, coffee and cocoa and asking that he will make some use of these figures in any remarks he may be making when the Tea Duty is debated next week.

There is a strong feeling here that tea is being made to bear a most unfair share of the burden of taxation.

May I ask to be favoured with a copy of your Year Book for 1913, which I have not yet received?

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) STEWART R. COPE.

Resolved:—"That this Committee is of opinion that the present is not the time to move in the matter."

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

HEW KENNEDY.

Chairman and Acting Secretary.

"Thirty Committee."



DICKOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Dickoya Planters' Association was held at the Dickoya Club, Norwood, on Thursday. Mr. H. G. Eccles (Chairman and Hon. Secretary) presided, and the others present were:—the Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe-Eliot, Dr. A. R. Milton.

Messrs. R. D. Kershaw, H. B. Daniell, R. H. Cooper, A. T. T. Meyer, A. M. Maitland, Guy Walker, J. D. Forbes, T. B. Coombe, L. C. Maudslay, J. R. Neale, M. C. Cox, G. F. Clarke, J. B. Sidgwick (visitor), J. W. Baillie, E. H. B. Norrish, A. C. Yates, E. W. Morris, R. K. Clark, C. W. Jones, E. Massy, J. H. Armitage, and E. W. Napper.

MINOR ROAD GRANTS.

The CHAIRMAN brought forward the usual grants to minor roads for 1915, which represented a total of Rs. 989.

CEYLON TEA GIFT.

The CHAIRMAN brought up the following resolution passed by the Maskeliya P. A. urging that every effort be made to induce the large Companies to support the Ceylon Tea Gift in a liberal spirit.

The resolution was unanimously supported.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The CHAIRMAN then submitted the Annual Report from which the following extracts are taken:—

MEMBERSHIP. Estates 72. Private voters 2.

ACREAGE AND CROP. Total acreage in tea, 29,016; total tea in bearing 27,144; estimated crop for 1915, 15,458,000 lbs. per acre, 569 lbs.

TEA.—The crop returns from the district for 1914 appear to be generally satisfactory, with well maintained prices and strong markets.

PESTS AND DISEASES.—The district continues free of any serious development in either insect pest or fungoid disease. The Committee urge members to do all in their power to check the recurrence of Tortrix and prevent the entry of Shot-hole Borer. The representative on the Pest Board, Mr. R. Maclure, has resigned his appointment. Mr. L. C. Maudslay, with the approval of the Maskeliya P. A., has kindly consented to his nomination for the vacant position. The Committee cannot allow Mr. Maclure to retire without an expression of gratitude to him for his services, which have been most acceptable. He submitted a report to the Association in which he stated that the pest of "Tortrix" caterpillar keeps recurring yearly. Where it comes from is a mystery. I think it probable the parent breeding place is in the jungles, from there the flights of moths are carried by the S.W. winds up the valley, and they settle on the tea on exposed features. Then the second and following generations spread all over the district. The only remedies are to do what we can to encourage bird-life on our estates, and to "go for" the egg masses as they appear on the tea. There are said to be 500 eggs in each mass. Without its interfering very much with plucking, a coolie will sometimes collect 100 or more egg masses. The collecting and destroying of these egg masses may not cure the trouble, but it undoubtedly lessens it.

HOSPITALS.—Satisfactory repairs have been made to the association by the unofficial visitor, Mr. R. D. Kershaw, for whose services all communities are greatly indebted. The Infectious Diseases Wards have formed a valuable adjunct to the Hospital.

TRANSPORT, 1914.—1914 has not been a good year for transport owing to outbreaks of rinderpest and hoof-and-mouth diseases. These came as usual in the early part of the year and caused great inconvenience owing to the amount of manure and other goods which were forwarded from Colombo in that busy season. Colombo was also infested by rinderpest which made the buying of bulls a very difficult matter. Large amounts were paid to the railway for warehouse rents at Hatton station. It had been hoped that before the end of the year the lorries which were ordered by the "Maskeliya Motor Syndicate" would have been on the road, but owing to the outbreak of war the Home Government cancelled all shipments and it is not known when the lorries are likely to arrive. During the last few days cattle disease has been reported in Dinubula and Nuwara Eliya districts, but up to date there is no appearance of disease in this district.

ONE DAY'S PAY FUND.—The collector, Mr. E. Massy, reports on this scheme. The Committee, in calling attention to his opening paragraph, appeals to members to distribute their charities through this excellent medium.

"This fund, I regret to say, has not been well supported in Dickoya district, owing, I am sure, to many men having subscribed largely to different charities privately. But with the new year it is expected that more will come in. Being a planters' fund it is hoped that all planters who can possibly afford it will subscribe their one day's pay a month. Just under one thousand pounds sterling was collected in December and there is every likelihood of this sum being exceeded. I am sure that all will realise that such a sum coming in monthly will be of great help at Home."

WANARAJAH BRIDGE.—It has been with regret that your Committee has noticed during the year the dilatory progress made over the building of this bridge and roadway. The work which was commenced more than two years ago remains incomplete, and has been practically stopped owing to departmental retrenchment.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

CHAIRMAN.—Dr. A. R. Milton.

HON. SECRETARY.—Mr. J. D. Forbes.

AUDITOR.—Mr. C. W. Jones.

COMMITTEES.

The following Committees were then elected:—

KANDY REPRESENTATIVES.—The Chairman, Hon. Secretary, and Messrs. H. F. Laycock, R. H. Cooper and G. F. Clarke.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. H. F. Laycock.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.—The Hon. Mr. R. Huyshe-Eliot, Messrs. R. K. Clark, H. F. Laycock, H. G. Eccles, L. C. Maudslay, R. D. Kershaw, J. R. Neale, Dr. Milton, Messrs. H. B. Daniell, G. F. Clarke, G. H. Sparkes, M. L. Wilkins, E. Massy, C. W. Jones, J. D. Forbes, J. H. Armitage, A. C. T. Meyer, M. H. Grant Peterkin, R. H. Cooper, D. G. Brebner, and E. Taylor.

CHURCH AND MEDICAL COMMITTEE.—Chairman, Dickoya P. A., Chairman, Maskeliya P. A., Messrs. R. Huyshe-Eliot, Hew Kennedy, R. K. Clark, R. H. Cooper, E. F. Taylor, J. P. Jukes, H. G. Eccles, District Church Hon. Secretary, Messrs. Wedd, Laycock, Alston, Hon. Secretary, Dickoya P. A. and Maskeliya P. A. with power to add to their number, Hon. Secretary of Committee, H. F. Laycock, Venture, Norwood.

PLANT PEST BOARD.—Mr. L. C. Maudslay.

DIMBULA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

RAILWAY LUGGAGE INSURANCE.

The CHAIRMAN said: After fairly lengthy correspondence between the Parent Association and the Railway Department, it was decided that the railway would undertake to accept luggage for conveyance by passenger train if the passenger did not accompany it, on condition that the box was delivered at the railway with a cord sealed when a wire and the railway seal would be affixed thereto and a minimum charge of Re. 1 would be made for such insurance.

TRUSTEES OF DISTRICT PROPERTY.

The meeting agreed to incorporation.

SURMISES OF A NUWARA ELIYA CORONER.

The CHAIRMAN read the following extracts from an inquest held at the Nuwara Eliya Civil Hospital on the 12th September last:—

"The deceased seems to be an estate cooly who was probably turned out by some estate superintendent or kangany without work or rice and has gone begging. I have also noticed several Tamil coolies begging in the town, which may be due to want of employment and rice in the estates caused by the depressions in the tea trade due to the present war.

"I recommend that steps be taken by Government to notify planters that each cooly in the estate be given a certain amount of work and rice for his or her maintenance and that coolies unfit for work should be provided with rice and the cost debited to his kangany or estate.

"If it is thought necessary that a concession should be made to the planters, I would suggest that the wages of coolies be paid once in three months instead of time allowed by the Labour Ordinance, but that the supply of rice, to coolies able or unable to work be made compulsory.

"Whenever coolies unable to work cannot be maintained with rice on estates, all facilities should be given to their returning to the Coast. Besides the climate of Nuwara Eliya is too rigorous for beggars to stay here for any time, and there is no shelter provided for them, the want of which will cause even death in a night.

"I should therefore think that the police be instructed not to allow beggars to wander about in the bazaars."

Mr. G. C. Bliss: What is the name of this gentleman who seems to know more of our duties than we know.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Naganather, Mudaliyar (Laughter). I may say in regard to this that the doctor in Nuwara Eliya examined the cooly and made the following diagnosis: "The condition of the liver shows that deceased was suffering from Cirrhosis of the liver." It would seem clear from this that the doctor diagnosed the case accurately. The coroner on the other hand seems to have gone out of his way to offer insults to the Planting Community by making surmises and strictures not based on fact. He has therefore lost the confidence of the Planting Community in the District of Nuwara Eliya, and I think Government might be requested to supersede him by a more competent man. (Hear, hear.) It is not necessary to refute the accusations made at the inquest as it shows the complete want of common knowledge by the Coroner of the care and supervision given to labourers on estates by those in charge. (Hear, hear.) The remarks made by the Coroner are not only reprehensible but absolutely unfounded on fact and display his own ignorance of planting matters which in future he will do well to leave severely alone. (Hear, hear.) I hope that what I have laid before you will meet with your approval.

The meeting approved of the Chairman's suggestion.

COOLIES PROCEEDING TO THE COAST.

The Secretary tabled a letter from the Secretary, C. P. A., with regard to attending to coolies at railway stations. He also read a letter from the Secretary, C. P. A., about the advisability of rupees being given to coolies proceeding to the coast, in preference to notes.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The CHAIRMAN brought up the forty-second annual report of the Dimbula Planters' Association for 1914, which stated:—

MEMBERSHIP.—Estate Voters 105. Honorary Members 3. Total 108.

MEETINGS.—Three general meetings, and three Committee meetings were held during the year, the attendance averaging 21 and 13 respectively against 34 and 17 in 1913.

ACREAGE.—The acreage of tea in bearing is 45,923. (Total acreage being 53,069).

TEA CROP.—The estimated crop for 1915 is 26,588,650. This figure has been obtained as were those of the acreage as a result of circularisation this year.

TEA PRICES.—It may again be recorded that the strong market has benefited Low Country teas more than those grown in Districts such as Dimbula. The firmness of the Home Market in particular since the War began has been extraordinary.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.—The rainfall on Belgravia for the year was 94.06 inches against a 7 years' average of 99.98 inches. As compared with last year the first four months were very short as also the last three, the other five months being very much the same.

TELEPHONES.—These have given varying satisfaction during the year. The chief faults have been owing to the difficulty in keeping up perfect and uninterrupted connections on the earth circuit system, especially through two exchanges. The converting to metallic circuit has been agreed on by all subscribers, cost of same not to be paid by mileage as before, but the total cost to be equally divided between all subscribers to each separate exchange. This is well in hand on the Tillicoultry section and should be finished

early in 1915. The estimated cost of this was Rs. 110 per subscriber; it will however come to rather more than this (about Rs. 135) owing to a rise of 25 per cent. on all materials since the war began.

RICE.—The average rates ruling throughout the year have once more been abnormally high. Estates throughout the district must have again sustained heavy losses. Thanks to prompt measures taken by our Assistant Government Agent, the general rise in the price of food-stuffs when war was declared was much modified.

LABOUR.—Your Committee are of opinion that labour has been more settled this year than for some considerable time. The war appears to have settled the advance question for the time being better than any of our efforts at "Federation." as a general rule kangannies neither asking nor receiving advances since the war began, and it will be possible for us to remain in this excellent position after the war is over. The present price of rice and consequent loss to estates in issuing it to coolies is most serious and the question of a reduction in quantity issued at a uniform price may have to be considered.

LIQUID FUEL.—The question of the most unsatisfactory supply of this commodity on estates has received the serious attention of your Committee this year. It has been fairly well proved that the true cause of the situation is that neither the supplier, Government nor the planter himself, had foreseen the unprecedented increase in the use of liquid fuel throughout the Island. Government have promised to put six new oil waggons on the Railway. It is open to doubt whether these will be sufficient to ensure the smooth working of several "installations." However, if in the near future, some enterprising transport contractor would see his way to putting a motor-driven fuel waggon on the roads in the district, the planters could have an incentive to keep on their premises an installation of their own.

TRANSPORT.—Lorries have now been running for seven months on the road from Talawakelle to Diyagama. Transport conditions in the district in general have been much more satisfactory in consequence.

The Election of Office-Bearers.

MR. HAMILTON HARDING RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

MR. G. C. BLISS, who was elected Chairman, *pro tem*, on the motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, seconded by Mr. D. J. Maitland, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hamilton Harding for his work during the past year. (Applause.)

MR. WILSON SMITH then proposed that Mr. Hamilton Harding be re-elected Chairman for another year.

MR. W. H. MORRISON seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

THE HONORARY SECRETARY.

MR. HAMILTON HARDING, having resumed the chair, thanked the meeting for his re-election. He then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary and referred in flattering terms to Mr. Huntley Wilkinson's work during the past year.

The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

The SECRETARY suitably replied, thanking the Chairman for his complimentary references and the members of the general Committee and the special Committee for their hearty co-operation with him.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Huntley Wilkinson was resigning for reasons of his own. Mr. Grahame Smith had told him that he would be glad to take up the Secretaryship. He would be returning from England in about three months

time. In the meanwhile Mr. Huntley Wilkinson had agreed to carry on the work of the Association until Mr. Grahame Smith's return.

This arrangement was agreed to.

AUDITOR.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. A. A. Bowie for auditing the accounts in the past year, which was carried. Mr. Bowie was elected auditor for the ensuing year.

COMMITTEES.

The following Committees were then appointed for 1915:—

REPRESENTATIVES, RANGY COMMITTEE. Messrs. F. W. Le Feuvre, A. A. Bowie, A. T. Sydney Smith, A. M. Cooper and H. Wilkinson.

STANDING COMMITTEE. Messrs. F. E. Waring, John Tilly, W. Wilson Smith, R. Mylius, A. A. Bowie, A. L. Gibson, A. T. Sydney Smith, J. Grahame Sinclair, G. C. Bliss and J. E. B. Baillie Hamilton.

GENERAL COMMITTEE. Upper Agras: Messrs. A. L. Scott, H. A. Grigg and N. Orchard; Agras: H. D. Sauer, W. B. Bartlett and A. C. Chamberlin; Preston Valley: F. W. Le Feuvre, P. Astle and E. Lee; Gorge: G. H. Hughes and P. Hending; Tillimoutry: H. M. MacLeod; Wallaha: S. Howard and D. J. Maitland; Lindula: C. L. Bliss; Talawakelle: J. W. Ferguson and A. M. Cooper; Watagoda: J. Eustace and C. S. Wait; Lower Dimbula: C. S. Sparkes and J. Mitchell; Kotigagda: T. S. Mason and W. H. Cooke; Mount Vernon: W. H. Morrison and G. Cox Scott; Upper Dimbula: E. J. MacLean, G. H. Collinson and C. E. Picken; Middle Dimbula: F. K. Smethurst and E. Cowan.

PROVINCIAL ROAD LOCAL COMMITTEES.—Lindula-Agra Road including Railway Gorge and Wallaha Roads: Messrs. F. W. Le Feuvre (Chairman), A. C. Chamberlin, E. E. Megget, A. L. Gibson and J. E. B. Baillie Hamilton; Preston Glenlyon Road: Messrs. A. J. Hamilton Harding (Chairman), R. C. Fowler, E. E. Megget and G. C. Bliss.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND. Rangy Representative: Mr. G. H. Collinson.

DISTRICT EUROPEAN DOCTOR SCHEME COMMITTEE. Messrs. G. C. Bliss, A. L. Scott, H. D. McMillan, A. A. Bowie, J. W. Ferguson, W. H. Cooke, C. F. Winthrop, C. L. Bliss and T. S. Mason.

CHURCH COMMITTEE. Messrs. A. J. Hamilton Harding, W. Wilson Smith, E. Cowan, C. L. Bliss, C. F. Winthrop and H. D. McMillan.

TELEPHONES. Messrs. J. G. Sinclair, H. D. Sauer and E. Cowan.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT. Messrs. A. L. Gibson, D. J. Maitland, H. D. Sauer and G. C. Bliss.

MINOR ROADS. Messrs. R. C. Fowler, A. A. Bowie, G. Cox Scott and H. D. McMillan.

VIGILANCE. Messrs. W. H. Morrison, G. H. Collinson, C. L. Bliss and A. L. Scott.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND CANVASSERS. Messrs. W. H. Cooke, R. Fowler, A. L. Scott, G. H. Collinson and J. W. Ferguson.

MINOR COMMITTEE TO REPORT UPON CONDITION OF ROADS.—Wallaha Road: Mr. D. J. Maitland; Gorge Valley Road: Mr. J. E. B. Baillie Hamilton; Lindula-Agra Road, Lindula to Caledonia Gap: Mr. M. McLeod; Lindula-Agra Road, Caledonia Gap to Holbrook: Mr. J. E. Tull; Lindula-Agra Road, Holbrook to Diyagama: Mr. A. L. Scott.

ASSOCIATION APPOINTMENTS. European Doctor: Dr. F. Nangle Smartt; District Chaplain: The Rev. Arthur Le Feuvre.

CEYLON NURSING ASSOCIATION.—Mr. A. J. Hamilton Harding.

UNOFFICIAL HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Lindula: Messrs. H. D. McMillan and A. T. Sydney Smith; Dimbula: Messrs. G. Cox Scott and F. E. Waring; Dispensaries: Agras: Mr. A. L. Scott; Nanu Oya: Mr. W. P. Spurway.

MEMBER, PLANT PESTS BOARD, NUWARA ELIYA.—Mr. A. J. Hamilton Harding.

NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT SMALL TOWN LOCAL BOARD.—Mr. A. A. Bowie.

MEMBER OF DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE, NUWARA ELIYA.—A. J. Hamilton Harding.

CEYLON TEA GIFT.

It was resolved to support the Maskeliya resolution.

ISSUE OF RICE.

The SECRETARY read the letter, dated 23rd December, from the Parent Association.

The meeting agreed to leave the matter in the hands of local superintendents; and the Secretary was instructed to inform the Secretary, C. P. A., to that effect.

MOTOR LORRY TRAFFIC TAXATION.

The CHAIRMAN read a letter from the Talawakelle Engineering Works re the proposed increase of Government taxes on motor lorries, and pointed out that deducting Sundays and taking 313 working days at 60 miles per day up and down in the year the proposed tax represents approximately 3 cents per ton per mile.

HAPUTALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION AND RETRENCHMENT.

The annual general meeting of the Haputale Planters' Association was held at the Haputale Resthouse at 1 p.m. on Friday last. Mr. A. J. Percy Wills (Chairman and Hon. Secretary) presided, and the others present were Messrs. W. M. Hall, Cobham Grant, J. R. Bell, John A. Coombe, W. A. Wilson, A. Scovell, O. H. Warren, A. Allen, A. Fellowes Gordon, L. G. Byatt, S. B. Smith, Wm. Gibson, A. E. Ames, C. J. Bayley, B. T. Heathcote, P. de P. Carey, and C. F. Dowker.

MEDICAL WANTS ORDINANCE.

The CHAIRMAN submitted a letter from the Secretary, C.P.A., enclosing a circular letter from the Colonial Secretary making additions to the list of drugs in Appendix A. to the rules under the Medical Wants Ordinance, the notification being published in the "Gazette."

EMPLOYING PAID-OFF COOLIES.

The CHAIRMAN read the following communication from the Secretary of the Badulla P. A., dated the 13th instant:—

• LABOUR:—Please inform me, when sending in crop figures, whether you will support and adhere to the following resolutions, discussed at the last General Meeting:—

(1.) That no coolies be employed by Superintendents without the written permission of the paying off Superintendent, in the Association.

(2.) That tendus be headed "United Uva Associations," in cases where members are unwilling to pay off coolies; the omission of these words to signify their readiness to do so.

(3.) That this heading does not prevent correspondence when necessary.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) WILFRED RETTIE,
Hon. Secretary.

The meeting resolved not to support the Badulla resolution. Only one member voted for it.

ATTENDING TO COOLIES AT RAILWAY STATIONS.

The meeting resolved not to support the scheme.

THE RATNAPURA DISTRICT JUDGE.

The CHAIRMAN read the following letter:—

DEAR SIR,

You may remember a very strong judgment that appeared in the Local Press, on a Planter in this District by our Police Magistrate. It was so violent that it seemed to some that a slur was cast on the whole Planting Community, and one or two Associations mentioned it at their meetings and hoped that an enquiry would be held and the matter cleared up.

The case in point has been fully gone into by my Committee and it was found that so far from blame being attributable to the Superintendent he had erred on the side of leniency.

I append the whole correspondence and copies of the case with annotations. It is I fear too long to ask you to read it right through, but I feel sure that a glance at it will convince you of the justice of our cause, and if so might I ask you to say just a few words to that effect at the next meeting of your Association, and to satisfy anyone who may now think that any slur rests on the Planting Community, this District, or the Superintendent in question.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

E. C. VILLIERS,

HONORARY SECRETARY,

Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association.

It was agreed to let the matter stand over till next meeting.

RICE ISSUED TO COOLIES.

The meeting decided with regard to the main points to be considered that (1) concerted action is not desirable; and as regards (2) that two or three rates are advisable.

PUTTING UP PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS.

The meeting decided to get lists of kaddiestuffs from Bandarawela, Haputale, Koslande and Haldummulla before taking further action.

INCORPORATION OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

It was proposed, on the motion of Mr. BAYLEY, seconded by Mr. COBHAM GRANT, that the Association await further information from the Parent Association before supporting the scheme.

LABOUR COMMISSION.

The CHAIRMAN tabled the estimated expenditure for the upkeep and administration of the Ceylon Labour Commission, Trichinopoly, for 1915.

CEYLON TEA GIFT.

The proposal of the CHAIRMAN that the Association contribute Rs. 150 was carried unanimously.

REGISTRATION OF COOLIES' DEBTS.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Wilson made a suggestion that the Planters' Labour Federation should be written to as regards limiting coolies' expenses from the Coast.

Mr. WILSON: Some misconception seems to have taken place about my original resolution about registering new coolies' debts. I propose that no *bona fide* Coast coolies be put on the estate register at over Rs. 40 per head and on no account be raised over that amount. In fact this amount of Rs. 40 seems to me unnecessary, but leave it at that.

The proposal was carried.

THE RETRENCHMENT POLICY.

Mr. SMITH proposed that the Badulla resolution be supported.

Mr. ALLAN seconded; and the motion was carried unanimously.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The CHAIRMAN read the annual report which is as follows:—

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1914.

Your Committee have pleasure in placing before you the 39th annual report. The number of estates on the register at the end of the year was 50 and there was one private voter.

MEETINGS.—There have been four general meetings including the Annual Meeting and four Committee Meetings. On the whole the attendance has been fairly satisfactory, but there is room for further effort on the part of members in lending their assistance at attending the meetings.

FINANCE.—The financial position is very satisfactory there being a balance at credit at the end of the year of Rs. 379.33.

ESTIMATES.—The official estimates for 1914-1915 are as follows:—

TEA.—1914 total acreage, 21,249; acreage in bearing, 19,732; estimated crop, 10,798,900; native crop, 124,500; yield per acre, 56.—1915 total acreage, 22,091; acreage in bearing, 19,921; estimated crop, 10,955,425; native crop, 304,700; yield per acre, 50.

RUBBER.—1915 total acreage, 2,978; acreage in bearing, 2,351; estimated crop, 438,000.

N.B.—In 1914 estimates only the number of trees was given as follows. No. of trees 432,161. Trees in bearing 148,988. Estimated crop 294,500 lbs. A fair proportion of the 1915 acreage is only in partial bearing.

OTHER PRODUCTS.—Crotoms, 4 cwt., Cocoa, 270 cwt.; Pepper, 15 cwt.

WEATHER.—Some parts of the district have been more fortunate than others, but speaking generally most estates suffered considerably from the severe drought experienced during the months July-September. The weather during the other months was about normal.

CROPS.—For the reason mentioned in the previous paragraph many estates did not quite realize their estimates, but on the other hand some estates were considerably ahead of their estimated figures. It might be mentioned that the estates that suffered most were in the district of Haputale itself.

PRICES.—These have been very satisfactory taking all circumstances into consideration, but there is no doubt that estates selling locally have suffered somewhat since the outbreak of war, whereas those selling in England have up to date been more fortunate.

ROADS.—These have been kept in good order generally and reflect credit on the P.W.D., who have also continued the work of benching corners on the Haldunulla-Koslanda road.

RAILWAYS.—There was the usual interruption to traffic due to the annual slips in the N.E. monsoon, but your Committee are glad to note that the old slip on Haputale estate has so far given no further trouble. Members will have observed from the local papers that Government have discontinued the running of the night mail except on Fridays down and Sundays up. It is hardly necessary to point out that we are among the principal sufferers in every way. It is now incumbent on our Association to use the most strenuous efforts to get the authorities to revert to the old working with regard to this train. The subject will come up for discussion later, so there is only need in this report to record our emphatic protest.

GENERAL TRANSPORT.—Here again your Committee consider we have a distinct grievance owing to the Government's new scheme of taxation of motor lorries.

If there is one part of the island where such means of transport are increasingly necessary it is in Uva. A start has been made and a few light lorries are running in addition to the Ceylon Transport Syndicate's vehicles in our district. Government now steps in and puts an almost prohibitive tax on the vehicles which will not only stifle the enterprise at its inception, but will probably be the cause of forcing those vehicles at present in use off the roads. In a district such as ours where rinderpest is usually rampant in some part or other, encouragement should be given to any means that will facilitate transport, and our Association will no doubt use their most strenuous endeavours to get some relief from this latest proposed imposition.

PESTS.—Shot-hole borer continues to spread in the district and is very bad in some estates. As was pointed out last year, until some suitable rules are framed and the assistance of the proposed expert obtained, little can be done beyond the means at present employed to keep the pest in check. Circulars have been received from the Department of Agriculture, which have already been circulated among members, in which it is notified that all estates that have, or suspect they have, shot-hole borer on their estates must immediately notify the Director of Agriculture under severe penalties if they fail to do so.

LABOUR.—On the whole there has been little complaint to make with regard to labour, nearly all estates having had sufficient for general requirements. Since the outbreak of war, however, coolies have been coming from coast in considerably less numbers than was the case previously.

LOSS OF RICE.—This has continued to exercise the minds of members, and on the outbreak of war the matter became somewhat serious. The subject was fully discussed at the general meeting last September, and although no general agreement could be arrived at, individual effort has been successful in reducing the loss to comparatively reasonable dimensions in the two sub-districts. The Agents' Association are now taking the matter up, which your committee thinks may be more satisfactory, since it may be the means of forcing into line those estates that have stood out of any scheme that has so far been put forward.

VISIT OF H. E. THE GOVERNOR.—H. E. visited the province in March last and was entertained to lunch at Badulla by the combined associations of Uva. H. E. received the Chairman and Hon. Secretaries of the then Uva P. A.'s, when several matters that required attention were discussed, and received H. E.'s sympathetic consideration. H. E. was most emphatic that roads above all things should receive every consideration, and we trust that H.E. will bear this in mind when curtailing the expenditure of the various departments.

COMBINED MEETINGS OF THE UVA P. A.'S.—Two meetings of this newly formed body were held during the year, one at Passara and one at Badulla. At the latter meeting there was a full attendance of your representatives, when several important matters were discussed.

HOSPITAL RETRENCHMENT.

Mr. BAYLEY proposed: "As this Association has definite proof that retrenchment has been recently made it would be interesting to have official information and definite particulars as to what retrenchment has been authorised, and the Association requests the Planting Member to get this information for the Association in Council." (Applause).

Mr. SMITH seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

MR. J. W. HYDE ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

Mr. S. B. SMITH, who was then voted to the chair position, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman, which was carried with acclamation. He then

proposed that Mr. J. W. Hyde be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

Mr. GIBSON seconded—motion was carried.

It was resolved that Mr. S. B. Smith act as Chairman till the arrival early next month of Mr. Hyde.

THE HON. SECRETARY.

On the motion of Mr. GIBSON, seconded by the CHAIRMAN, Mr. Fellowes Gordon was elected Hon. Secretary.

COMMITTEES.

The following Committees were then elected:—

GENERAL COMMITTEE.—Haputale: Messrs. W. A. Wilson, Wm. Gibson and B. T. Heathcote. Koslande: Messrs. A. J. Percy Wills, C. M. Durrant, and A. Allen. Bandaramulla: Messrs. R. G. Coombe and Cobham Grant. Haldummulla: Messrs. B. J. Wyllie and J. R. Bell. West Haputale: Mr. D. E. Warren.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. Wm. Gibson, A. J. Percy Wills, and B. T. Heathcote.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. Wm. Gibson.

CEYLON NURSING ASSOCIATION.—Mr. Wm. Gibson.

PLANT PESTS' BOARD.—Mr. J. W. Hyde.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. J. W. Hyde and Fellowes Gordon for Haputale; and Messrs. C. M. Durrant and A. J. Percy Wills for Koslande.

AUDITOR.—Mr. S. B. Smith.

P. R. C. MEMBER.—Mr. Cobham Grant.

Mr. WILLS proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Smith for the work of Auditor he had done during the past year (Applause).

ROOT PEST OF TEA.

The CHAIRMAN said with regard to Plant Pests there was a new poochie noticed about eighteen months ago, which attacked the roots of tea bushes. It had not been proclaimed as the shot-hole borer. The matter should be represented to the Plant Pests Board. If the poochie got down to the root of the tea it would, of course, do a great deal more damage than the shot-hole borer which attacked the stem. The pest was described in the "Tropical Agriculturist."

THE NIGHT MAIL.

Mr. BELL proposed that he recommended that a first class carriage be attached to the coolie train, mixed goods, which leaves Colombo about 8 p.m. for Up-country.

This was agreed to.

P. R. C. MEMBERS' GRANT.

The CHAIRMAN said the next item was a resolution by Mr. Wills "That the yearly grant made to the P. R. C. representative be discontinued, and that it be an honorary appointment."

The resolution was carried.

THE RURAL MEMBER.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Fellowes Gordon had the subject of the Rural Member to bring up.

The SECRETARY said he wished to bring up that matter because he really thought that their Planting Member was not very much good in Council. He thought he had really done nothing to stop retrenchment in the matters they had

just complained of. He wrote to the members and asked what he had done on the subject and what he proposed doing, and he wrote back a private letter and said he had done his best. So he supposed the member's best was his best (Laughter.)

Mr. WILLS: We should undoubtedly wish to see a very strong member in the Legislative Council, but our member has not had a chance up to date. Our grievance is as regards the curtailment of certain expenditure. The curtailment of that expenditure was decided on the same day that the Council closed down. Council has not met since that date, and our member has not had a chance. He has, however, done much outside in conjunction with the Chairman of the C. P. A. I do not think we can pass judgment on him yet.

The SECRETARY: I am glad to hear he is doing such a lot.

This brought the meeting to a close.

HEWAHETA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

DISAGREEMENT WITH PROPOSAL TO ISSUE RICE BY WEIGHT.

The annual general meeting of the Hewaheta Planters' Association was held at Pattiagama Club on January 7th. There were present:—Messrs. Carey, Popham, North Tonks, Harris and W. C. Hawkes, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

The following annual report of the Committee was read by the Hon. Secretary:—

The number of estates on the register at the end of the year was 23 against 24 last year, Kirimittia Estate having resigned from the Association.

The financial position of the Association is satisfactory, shewing a balance to the credit of Rs. 60.17.

The official crop estimates for 1915 are as follows:—

	TEA.	CARDAMOMS.	RUBBER.
Total acreage	14,445	413	456
Acreage in bearing	11,771	413	343
	lbs.		
Black tea	4,936,400		
Green tea	1,510,000		
Total	6,446,400		
Cardamoms	26,700		
Rubber	103,500		

Estimate from native gardens 191,000 lbs.

SEASON AND CROPS.

The tea and rubber crops shew an increase against last year owing to favourable weather. The cardamom crop is slightly short.

Prices for the different products have been well up to the average.

ROADS.

The main Kandy-Deltota road has shewn an improvement on the whole, and some of the corners have been cut back, but there are still many more very dangerous corners which should be cut back at once. The heavy shade at blind corners should be cut out. This would greatly improve the road and make some corners far safer for traffic.

The Kandy-Rahatungoda road is still in a disgraceful state, but we are glad to see that Government have already made a start on this road in the right direction.

Gonavy-Rahatungoda Road.—A certain amount of metal has been broken for this road, but the Committee regret that owing to the Government's drastic retrenchment scheme, no funds are available to continue the metalling of it or to make any improvements. Your Committee consider this road most important for the upper district, and any retrenchment very unsound policy. Every effort should be made to get this road finished during the present favourable weather.

MINOR ROADS.—These have been well maintained.

GENERAL TRANSPORT.

Owing to the outbreak of rinderpest during the early part of the year, transport was completely disorganised.

Motor Transport.—The Kandy-Beltota road was passed for full loads in April and since then several estates have taken to mechanical transport.

RAILWAY.

Your Committee still think this district would be best served by a light railway from Peradeniya to Hewaheta as suggested in Sir West Ridgway's regime, when full figures and particulars were submitted to Government.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

Shot-Hole Borer is still prevalent. All members have been circularised as to the necessity of reporting this pest to the Director of Agriculture.

HEALTH OF THE COOLIES.

Anchylostomiasis and infant mortality again shew an increase vide hospital report. Labour is short throughout the district.

TELEPHONES.

The main district exchange has given general satisfaction throughout the year. The upper district are now connected privately and are anxiously waiting for the Government trunk line to be erected.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

Mr. North proposed that Mr. Carey be elected Chairman for the coming year, but the latter regretted that his time would not permit him to take the office, and proposed that Mr. Hawkes be again asked to be Chairman.

This was carried unanimously. Mr. Hawkes was thanked for his services.

HON. SECRETARY.

Mr. Hawkes was asked to act both as Chairman and Hon. Secretary, but regretted his inability to do this, and proposed Mr. Sandys Thomas as Hon. Secretary.

This was carried.

Messrs. Carey and Hawkes were re-elected hospital visitors.

Messrs. Carey and Popham were elected Kandy representatives.

Mr. Popham was re-elected to the office in connection with the Benevolent Fund.

Messrs. Carey, Williams, Graham Clarke, Popham, North, Armstrong, Tancock, Ewart, Tonks and Harris were duly elected to form the General Committee.

NEW RULES.

The Kandy District Association rules were adopted with such alterations as were necessary for the Association.

ROADS.

The meeting considered that every effort should be made to get the Gonavy-Rahatungoda Road finished, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to press this matter with Government.

RICE.

Letters were read from the Central P. A. concerning the issue of rice by weight instead of measurement, and it was resolved:—"That this Association totally disagree with the suggestion of the Estates Agents' Committee to issue rice by weight owing to climatic conditions between Colombo and the estates, and especially as this would break down an old custom which the coolies have been used to for many generations."

GIFT OF TEA.

The CHAIRMAN urged all members to support this gift to the very best of their means; so many of the big companies not subscribing at all left the Planting community a big proposition to carry out the promised gift.

PLANTERS' ONE DAY'S PAY FUND.

This scheme was discussed and it was thought advisable to collect the subscriptions through the District Association instead of the way at present in force.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

W. J. SANDYS THOMAS,

Hon. Secretary.

KALUTARA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Kalutara P. A. was held at Tebuwana Club on Saturday afternoon. Mr. J. R. Barkley presided, and those present included Messrs. J. Fergusson, F. W. Bridge, F. J. Ingleby, G. T. Pett, C. E. A. Dias, A. J. Bawa, H. A. Burne, H. S. Wilkins, F. H. Haddon, H. A. Trail, A. M. Taylor, P. H. O. Ash, H. M. Stratford, A. T. S. Boyle, H. Inglis, H. A. Nance, C. P. Wijeratne, R. P. Broome, J. H. Griffiths, V. Grantham, R. A. Nance, and R. M. Ash (Acting Hon. Secretary).

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

CHAIRMAN.—Mr. J. R. Barkley.

HON. SECRETARY.—Mr. Niebecker.

Committees were appointed as follows:—Matugama.—Messrs. F. J. Ingleby, G. T. Pett, F. H. Griffiths, J. Fergusson, W. P. H. Dias. Kudaganga.—Messrs. R. Garnier, F. W. Bridge, Edwards, K. A. Burne, Bartruim, Francillon and E. S. Grigson. Bentota.—Messrs. P. H. O. Ash, A. T. Boyle, K. A. Burne and A. J. Bawa. Horana.—Messrs.

C. E. A. Dias, P. R. May, C. L. Vizard, R. C. Fielder. Neboda.—Messrs. Inglis, W. G. Dickinson, L. M. Wilkins, A. Callender, H. A. Nance, R. M. Ash, H. A. Maclaren, W. H. Taylor, Brayne, Edwards and H. M. Stratford. Kandy Committee.—Messrs. Inglis, Dickinson and R. M. Ash.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. Inglis.

NURSING ASSOCIATION.—The Chairman.

THE REPORT.

MEMBERSHIP.—There are now 75 estates on the register representing a cultivated acreage of 53,785 acres.

OBITUARY.—It is with great regret your Committee record the deaths of the following members of this district. In March, Messrs. E. R. Nicholson and J. A. Maclaren, in July that of Mr. A. J. Dawson, J.P. and U.P.M., his loss is very deeply felt, as is also that of Mr. C. A. Orr, Crown Proctor and J.P. and U.P.M., who died in September, also the sad death of Mr. Hugh McArthur in November last.

MEETINGS.—There have been three general meetings and one special general meeting, the latter to confirm the revised rules, copies of which are in your hands. There were nine Committee meetings held during the year.

FINANCE.—The balance shows a sum of Rs. 515.28 to be credited to the Association—Rs. 600 being on loan to the Telephone Committee, bearing interest at the rate of 7½ per cent.

As there is a chance of Government taking over the Telephone System, hitherto run privately, it would be well for the office-bearers to remember that this sum is still outstanding.

EVENTS IN 1914.—Plague is said to have broken out in Ceylon for the first time during February, 1914. Precautionary measures were at once taken and at a meeting of your Committee it was decided to circularise the district generally. At the present moment this disease still troubles the Island. It would be well for members to keep a sharp watch, and for all to remember the lesson taught from Bombay.

It is to be hoped that the Plague Camp which has been established at Mandapam will prevent this disease spreading.

In July small-pox broke out in Kalutara but happily did not spread, and was confined to the town, few deaths occurring thanks to the energetic measures taken by the authorities responsible.

LABOUR.—Although recruiting has not been so good as in previous years, labour conditions throughout the district are on a satisfactory basis. The rules of the District Federation, which members have so loyally supported, are we think responsible for the generally smooth working of our local labour force. Courtesy and loyalty is the motto of this small but unanimous District Federation.

ONE DAY'S PAY FUND.—Although the district has given to "breaking" point both in men and purse, it is pleasing to find that this Fund is receiving liberal support from all connected with planting throughout the Island. Your Committee desire with, they are sure, your unanimous support, to place on record the district's very hearty appreciation of the work so unostentatiously undertaken by the originator and his Working Committee.

DISTRICT RAILWAY EXTENSION.—Although this crying want has, for the time being, postponed, it has not been lost sight of by your Committee. All necessary figures are ready to be produced and these figures are very convincing when an opportunity arrives to reconsider the programme on Capital Expenditure throughout the Island.

Your Committee emphasize that this important railway is without doubt the chief want of the district, and would ask future office-bearers to keep this matter before the eyes of the authorities.

POSTAL MATTERS.—A building for the proposed post office at Agalawatte has been selected and alterations are so nearly completed that the opening of this office, should only be a matter of

weeks. The proposed office at Kudaganga is, however, not so far forward, owing, we are informed, to the curtailment of Government votes, and the building still remains in a half-completed condition.

Your Committee have pleasure in reporting that the telegraph and telephone line from Panadura to Ingiriya has not only been sanctioned, but they have the assurance of the Postmaster-General, to whom our thanks are due, that this all-important connecting line will be undertaken during 1915.

POLICE MATTERS.—It is deplorable to record that crime (and bad crime) has made this District notorious. Nevertheless your Committee find that the village headmen now appear to be reporting crimes, as is their duty, which action was previously conspicuous by its absence.

They have, however, to record with regret that although Government has been approached many times for more adequate Police supervision with regard to the village of Udawera—the necessity for which has been many times brought before the authorities—no relief has yet been granted.

A.S.P.—Your Committee would like to express their appreciation of the energetic work of the present A.S.P.

PLANT PESTS.—Your Committee are given to understand that the District generally is comparatively free from all plant pests. So far as they can gather with regard to Shot-hole Borer (*Xyleborus forficatus* Eich) the District remains free of this alarming pest. They would however bring to your notice the "Insect Pest and Quarantine Ordinance" No. 5 of 1901 published in the Government Gazette dated October 23rd, 1914, where you will find that any one in charge of a Tea Estate infested or suspected to be infested by Shot-hole Borer, failing to notify the Director of Agriculture, is punishable by imprisonment for a term of six months or a fine of Rs. 1,000 or both.

ROADS.—P. W. D.—At the last annual meeting your Committee remarked that these roads were normal and recommended that repairs should keep pace with the increasing traffic. They also mentioned that the bridges in the District under construction were making slow progress, and thereby causing inconvenience. They referred to the Anguruwatota Ferry which was even then in a very dangerous condition, and although many promises of "improvement at an early date" had been vouchsafed, the condition remained the same. It is unfortunately necessary to refer again to these remarks, and it is with regret they have to emphasize the recommendations submitted in last year's report.

AGALAWATTE-BADURELIYA ROAD.—Although recognizing the necessity for retrenchment, your Committee cannot find any justifiable reason for Government's attitude with regard to this expenditure.

It would be well for future office-bearers to agitate and to continue to agitate, until this road is properly converted into a main road.

HOSPITALS.—It is unnecessary to draw your attention to the manner in which our labourers are being discharged from hospital. It has also to be kept before you that the long-promised hospital at Pinbura is still "expected." Your Committee do not wish to enlarge on this subject, but they are sure that this matter will receive your earnest attention.

RULES RELATING TO FACTORIES.—Your attention is drawn to these Rules. All members should note that certificates have to be with the Government Agent on or before the 30th of June in each year.

RUBBER STATISTICS.—The total acreage under Rubber as represented by the Association is 39,184 acres of which 30,592 acres are in bearing.

Acreage of Rubber alone in bearing	...	30,592 acres.
" " not in bearing	...	8,592 "
" " in tea	...	6,427 "
" " opened in 1914	...	95 "

Estimated	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Crop ...	3,681,880	6,616,250	8,812,950	10,000,536
Secured	4,590,047	6,646,834	8,879,164	—

The 1914 crop is thus 3,963 tons and shows a yield per acre of 239 lbs. The estimated crop for 1915 is approximately 4,468 tons, shows a yield per acre of 270 lbs.

With regard to estates not associated, taking the area on the same basis as in 1914, 12,000 acres have to be added. The crop is roughly 1,600,000.

The total estimated crop for 1915 is therefore—

10,000,536
1,600,000

11,600,536

TEA STATISTICS.—The Association represents some 12,907 acres under tea of which 11,737 acres are in bearing.

During the year only 33 acres were open in this product.

Estimated	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Crop ...	5,666,700	5,995,220	5,220,275	5,025,070
Secured ...	5,794,867	5,557,000	5,084,660	—

The total yield per acres for 1914 was 433 lbs. against 480 lbs. in 1913.

The thanks of the Association are due to the Press, and your Committee wish to record their appreciation for the generosity displayed in allowing advertisements to be published at half price.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letter was read.

Ragama Camp,
January 7th, 1915.

SUBJECT:—Cooly Bills.

The EDITOR,
"Planting Gazette," (through the
Government Agent, W.P.), Kandy.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that estate Superintendents frequently complain, both directly and through the Hon. the Government Agent, Western Province, that the Cooly Bills referred to in Reminder Postcards from the Kacheheri have never reached them.

2. It would appear that many estate Superintendents do not realise that the slips of paper, enclosed in registered envelopes received from me, are the bills for the expenses of the coolies to whom the accompanying certificates and "Tins" relate.

3. I would therefore ask you to point out that Tin Ticket Coolies' Bills are now enclosed in the registered covers containing their certificates; and to request any Superintendents, who may receive a registered cover containing certificates and Tins, but no bills, to immediately communicate with me.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) CHAS. D. COCKAINE,
Superintendent.

In connection with this subject the CHAIRMAN remarked that if they wanted new tin tickets they must write to the A. and not send now to the Kalutara Kacheheri.

No discussion ensued on the subject.

THE TEA GIFT CONCERT.

A letter was read from the Parent Association calling attention to the necessity for paying subscriptions and registering votes, and also drawing attention to the concert in aid of the Tea Gift and asking for the Association's co-operation.

ROADS.

The following correspondence was read on this subject:—

30th November, 1914.

The DISTRICT ENGINEER,
Kalutara.

DEAR SIR,

I am requested by my Association to invite your attention to the landslips which have occurred on the Tebuwana-Matugama road at the Vogan hill, and which are endangering buildings on Vogan Estate.

I was also requested to point out the methods adopted in binding metal generally on all roads in the district, and it was the opinion of the members that the roads should be picked up more thoroughly and more care exercised in rolling the new metal on.

With reference to the curtailment of this year's programmes and Government's policy of economy generally, I should be greatly favoured if you could advise me how this policy affects your department with regard to the present works in the district, and also whether any of the existing works had had to be abandoned and a revised programme drawn up.

Yours faithfully,

HON. SECRETARY.

Kalutara Planters' Association,
December 3rd, 1914.

From the DISTRICT ENGINEER, Kalutara, to the HON. SECRETARY,
Kalutara Planters' Association, Clyde Estate.

SUBJECT: Roads, &c.

SIR,

Referring to the 3rd para of your letter No. of 30th November, 1914, I have the honour to request that the matter may be referred to the Head of my Department, as I have not received any definite instructions as yet on the subject. I will reply later on to the other part of your letter.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) R. G. BARTHOLOMEW,
District Engineer.

TEBUWANA BRIDGE.

On this subject the Hon. Secretary wrote to the D.E. asking when Government intended to erect this bridge or whether the work was to be postponed or not. The D.E. wrote that instructions had been received to proceed with the work. These instructions were dated the 27th January and had only just been received.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

Mr. INGLEBY complained that when his wife was ill the telephone exchange refused to transmit a very urgent telegraphic reply to him as it was after hours. He suggested that in a new contract a clause should be inserted saying that urgent messages should be sent day or night.

The meeting was in sympathy.

Mr. G. T. PETT called attention to a forthcoming meeting of the Excise Advisory Board and asked members to inform him of any complaints they had to make when he would immediately taken up the matter.

A vote of thanks to the chair then concluded the meeting.

KELANI VALLEY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Kelani Valley Planters' Association was held at Taldua Club on Saturday, the meeting starting some two hours after the advertised time. Mr. L. Bayly presided and there were also present:—Messrs. J. C. Mitchell (Hon. Secretary), F. Duncan, R. W. P. Bell, C. S. Jones, S. Byrde, A. L.

Baines, T. Hyatt, A. W. Cantlay, P. G. Wood, J. H. Wynell Mayow, J. C. L. Brereton, R. Lee Booker, C. F. Hutchinson, R. F. Browne, M. J. Paine, R. H. Villiers, A. Kennedy, C. Bouchier, D. B. Williamson, M. E. Finlinson, A. D. G. Burnett, D. I. Mackenzie, H. A. F. Simpson, L. Bayers, H. L. Murray, A. H. Reid, J. Dunlop and A. H. Jones.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

A circular letter from the Director of Agriculture was read announcing regulations regarding shot-hole borer which have already appeared.

A notification respecting additional drugs was also read.

The P. A. notice regarding subscriptions and votes was also read.

RICE.

The CHAIRMAN said the next thing on the agenda was rice. The following letter had been received from the Parent P.A., dated December 23rd.

DEAR SIR,

At the last meeting of my Committee held on the 11th instant, I was instructed to write and explain more fully the letter containing the suggestions of the Estate Agents' Association regarding the price of the issue of rice. It is evident that concerted action regarding matter relating to coolies is an excellent method to adopt if it is feasible to do so and it is with this in view that the Estate Agents' Association suggested the formation of local Committees. The main points to consider are :—

1. Is concerted action desirable?
2. If so could a more uniform price be charged for rice in your district?
3. Would one rate fairly embrace your whole district or would two or three rates be advisable—
 - (a) With regard to the cost of transport.
 - (b) With regard to different qualities of rice supplied to coolies.

With regard to question No. 2, I am to observe that the Estate Agents' Association suggests that more uniformity in district rates is advisable, but it does not necessarily follow that such rates should be higher than those at present charged to coolies for rice. I will be obliged by your considering the matter once again and informing me of the opinion of your Association in due course.

Mr. HYATT suggested the Secretary should write to the Estate Agents' Association and ask them to fix the price for Colombo. Until they did so they could not have a fixed rate there. The price of Soolai varied.

Mr. WILLIAMSON seconded and said this was one of the first duties the Estate Agents' Association should put their hands to. Before they could do anything in their part of the world the Agents ought to fix the price in Colombo so as to get it as cheap as possible and at the same rates for all estates.

A MEMBER : I would add to that uniform quality.

The CHAIRMAN said he quite endorsed what Mr. Hyatt had said. It was a matter for the Agents to do in Colombo

before it could be done there. The Chairman also suggested that a letter should be sent stating that concerted action between the planters was very desirable provided that the Estate Agents' Association as far as the purchase of rice was concerned would meet to combine and purchase all rice for the supply of their estates through a special sub-Committee appointed for same and thus reduce to a minimum uniformity the price in Colombo as well as the quality of rice supplied to estates.

Mr. MITCHELL said if they would read carefully the letter from the Chairman of the P. A. they would see that the suggestion was that the Estate Agents' Association were trying to put on the planters' shoulders the brunt of getting uniformity in the price of rice. As Mr. Hyatt said unless they got uniformity in Colombo they could not get it there.

The suggestions referred to above were adopted.

THE ISSUE OF RICE TO COOLIES.

In the course of a letter Mr. P. G. Wood suggested that rice should be issued on the 1st, 8th, 16th, and 24th of each month by all those that can do so.

Mr. Wood stated that he had brought forward this matter because he believed it would partially solve the rice trouble. The original idea was that the coolies should get a bushel a month. Now he got thirteen a year. Under his suggestion they would save a bushel a year. There were over half a million coolies in the island of which probably a quarter million worked. They would thus save a quarter of a million bushels a year, and the money thus saved could perhaps be used for the tea gift. Under the present circumstances they practically threw away a bushel. The coolie was quite satisfied with a bushel a month; why give him more. The extra bushel was going into the kaddy keeper's hands.

The CHAIRMAN said that it had been done before in various places. It had been done up-country with a certain amount of success. It was merely a suggestion to members and it might be worthy of consideration. There was no rule on the subject, and Mr. Wood had only given them the result of his experience. They simply left it to members of the Association to give it a trial if they cared to do so.

THE TEA GIFT.

A letter was read from the Maskeliya Association asking for the support of the Association for this fund, and the Chairman hoped that it would be given support worthy of the Association.

J. P. AND U. P. M.

Mr. Baines was recommended for the position of J. P. and U.P.M., Kitulgala, in place of Mr. Carmichael.

LEVEL CROSSINGS.

The SECRETARY announced correspondence with Mr. W. G. B. Dickson regarding an accident at a level crossing in the district.

On November 24th the Secretary of the Association wrote the G. M. R. and he had had no reply to this letter though he had written twice.

Mr. A. H. JONES said he nearly got run down the same evening as Mr. Dickson. The engine driver never blew his whistle until he was on the crossing. He stopped his car two feet from the line. The station master said he could not do anything as it was an express goods train.

The CHAIRMAN asked if it would meet the views of members if the Secretary was to write strongly again. He added that he himself and the Secretary would call on Mr. Greene on the subject.

IMPROVEMENTS AT AVISAWELLA STATION.

The CHAIRMAN announced that this subject and also that of cranes were shelved at the present time as they could not expect Government to carry out expensive schemes like this at present. They had not been lost sight of however.

DISTRICT COURT, AVISAWELLA.

Read letter from the Government Agent dated January 15th in response to a letter asking for further information on this subject was read:—

THE BRIDGE AT VEYANGODA.

The SECRETARY stated that he had had no reply to his letter on this subject.

Mr. WILLIAMSON said that nothing at all was being done at the moment. Working as hard as they did in this country it would not be finished for a year, and under the present circumstances two years. (Laughter.) He added that they were promised that it would be finished at the end of the year.

It was decided that the Secretary should write again.

RED SLUG.

Mr. A. G. BURNETT in a letter and a brief speech protested against the paucity of information given by the Government entomologist on his applying for information regarding red slug. It appears that he was referred for more extended information to the Tropical Agriculturist.

Mr. WILLIAMSON supported.

It was decided that the Parent Association and Peradeniya be written to on the matter.

THE PINDENI OYA ROAD.

A letter was read from Mr. Duncan asking that the Chairman, D.R.C., Kegalle, be asked to give a statement showing the amount of money from all sources, D.R.C., special grants from Government, revenue from tolls yearly available for the Pendeni Oya Road for 1910, 11, 12, 13, 14 and the amounts yearly spent on the upkeep of the road for the same periods.

He briefly moved a resolution to this effect saying the figures might prove interesting and amusing.

Mr. MITCHELL seconded and it was carried.

HOSPITAL REBATES.

Mr. BAYLY moved the following resolution:—"That Government be asked to grant rebate in cases where partial accommodation is available and that this rebate be *pro rata* with the number of beds to the full requirements of the Ordinance, provided that the general sanitary conditions of lines, etc., are approved of by the D.M.O."

This was seconded by Mr. MITCHELL and carried unanimously.

THE REPORT.

The following interesting report was read by the Secretary and unanimously adopted.

OFFICE BEARERS.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the members for their attendance during the past year, and said that without this nothing could have been done. He then vacated the chair, which was taken *pro tem* by Mr. T. HYATT, who proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Bayly for his work during the past year. He was a very busy man and it was a thankless job conducting those meetings. The election was agreed to unanimously and Mr. Bayly briefly expressed his thanks expressing his determination to carry whatever they wanted through in the interests of the district.

The CHAIRMAN moved a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Mitchell for the way in which he had carried out his secretarial duties and he also was unanimously re-elected. He hoped that the coming year would be a better one than the past. Very good progress was shown until the unfortunate war and the policy of retrenchment.

Other office-bearers were elected as follows:

AVISAWELLA—Messrs. C. S. Jones, P. Byrde and C. J. A. Marshall.

YATIYANTOTA—Messrs. T. Hyatt, R. I. Mackenzie and A. Cochrane.

KUAWELLA—Messrs. J. B. Williamson, F. Duncan and R. H. C. Edwards.

DEHIOWITA—Messrs. D. I. Mackenzie and F. Lushington.

WAGA—Mr. J. M. Mackenzie.

KITULGALA—Mr. A. L. Baines.

UNDAGODA AND LOWER DOLOSIRAGE—Messrs. R. H. Villiers and A. W. Cantlay.

KANDY COMMITTEE—Messrs. A. L. Baines, T. Hyatt, R. H. Villiers, F. Duncan and D. B. Williamson.

D. R. C. (Colombo) C. S. Jones (Waga) J. M. Mackenzie, (Kegalle) A. W. Cantlay.

BENEVOLENT FUND—The Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

HOSPITAL VISITORS—Avisawella, Messrs. C. S. Jones and P. Byrde.

KARAWANELLA—Messrs. D. B. Williamson and F. Lushington.

UNDAGODA—Messrs. A. W. Cantlay and R. H. Villiers.

KANDAGAMUWA—Messrs. B. A. Starling and F. Murray.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting then concluded.

KOTMALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the 11th annual general meeting held in Kotmale Sports Club on Thursday, January 14th, 1915. Present Messrs. M. S. Milne (Chairman), J. S. Richardson (Hon. Secretary), G. F. Cornish, R. E. Martin, H. C. Carmichael, C. H. Ayscough, A. Graham, J. W. Bennett,

A. J. Austin Dickson, F. R. Cheves, D. C. Mortimer and Messrs. G. Cox Scott, P. Martin, A. Steuart visitors.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from A. G. A., Nuwara Eliya, stating that Watagoda-Talawakelle Road is now open for traffic.

Read letter from Mr. A. J. Austin Dickson stating that he is willing to again represent the district on the Plant Pests Board.

PROPOSED INCREASE OF TAX ON MOTOR LORRIES.

Read letter from Mr. H. J. Sima of the Kotmale Transport Service, stating that under the proposed taxation he stands to pay a tax of Rs. 1,310 as against Rs. 210 paid heretofore, and that he would therefore have to raise his rates by two cents per ton, or give up business.

After discussion mainly between the CHAIRMAN and Mr. AUSTIN DICKSON, the latter proposed that the following resolution be forwarded to the Ceylon Planters' Association:—
"That this Association greatly disapproves of the proposed taxation of motor lorries as being excessive, though quite in agreement that some difference in taxation should be made according to horse-power of the lorries in question."

This was unanimously passed, many members voicing the general deep dissatisfaction felt at the incidence of the proposed taxation.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Hon. SECRETARY then read the eleventh annual report.

The CHAIRMAN then vacated the chair.

Mr. AUSTIN DICKSON proposed that Mr. H. C. Carmichael should take the chair pro tem.

Mr. H. C. CARMICHAEL proceeded forthwith to the election of office-bearers, when the following were duly proposed and elected.

CHAIRMAN.—Mr. J. W. Bennett.

Hon. SECRETARY.—Mr. C. H. Ayseough.

AUDITOR.—Mr. G. F. Cornish.

LOCAL COMMITTEE.—Mr. A. J. Austin Dickson, Mr. M. S. Milne, Mr. H. C. Carmichael, the Chairman, Hon. Secretary.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Mr. M. S. Milne.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. M. S. Milne.

PLANT PESTS BOARD.—Mr. A. J. Austin Dickson.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.—Mr. J. S. Richardson.

HOSPITAL VISITORS, (Nuwalapitiya).—Mr. M. S. Milne, Mr. D. C. Mortimer.

HOSPITAL VISITORS, (Kotmale).—Mr. H. C. Carmichael, Mr. J. S. Richardson.

S. P. C. A.—Mr. H. C. Carmichael.

MASKELIYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A largely attended meeting of the Maskeliya District Planters' Association was held at the Maskeliya Club on Wednesday afternoon. The chair was taken by Mr. C. B. Prettejohn, and there were also present:—Messrs. C. E. Wedd, A. P. Jukes, A. S. Collett (visitor), E. H. Etches, R. McCorquodale, A. H. Brymer, J. Creasy Hood, Philip H. Unwin, E. R. Cave Brown, F. A. M. Rawes, L. H. Deed, E. H. Hugh, R. St. Clair Harrison, Robt. K. Fletcher, F. C. Charnaud, J. Shannan Stevenson, R.

Maclure, Chas. M. Henry, R. B. Harvey, W. B. Bush, P. C. Adams, P. D. Hickman, and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. C. Goolden).

ARRACK TAVERNS.

The first item on the agenda was a motion from the Sabaragamuwa P.A. on the above subject. The CHAIRMAN said that the matter had been considered by the Parent Association, but, on account of the war, had been allowed to stand over. In view, however, of the great amount of trouble which must have been involved in drafting so thoughtful and considerate a scheme, he thought the least thing the meeting could do was to support it. The meeting agreed.

GORTHIE-MASKELIYA ROAD.

In response to a request from the Dickoya P. A., the meeting voted a contribution of Rs. 20 towards the upkeep of the above road.

THE TEA GIFT.

Mr. STEVENSON moved and Mr. ETCHES seconded the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—
"That this Association would strongly urge that every effort be made to induce the large companies to support the Ceylon Tea Gift in a liberal spirit."

It was agreed that the resolution should be circularised amongst the D. P. A.'s for their consideration and report.

DR. VERE NICOLL.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN seconded by Mr. WEDD a vote of thanks to Dr. Nicoll for his services was passed. Mr. Wedd said he thought they had all liked Dr. Nicoll during the short period he had been amongst them.

THE PRICE OF FOODSTUFFS.

Mr. WEDD proposed, and Mr. CREASY HOOD seconded, the following resolution, which was carried:—

"That this Association would draw the attention of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to the fact that the price of all foodstuffs has risen to a large extent throughout the Maskeliya district, and would ask him to take steps to fix maximum prices as soon as possible."

It was decided that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

INDO-CEYLON ROUTE AND BOLTERS.

Mr. SHANNAN STEVENSON proposed that the Pundaloya P. A. be asked to frame some definite scheme and circulate it for the further consideration of the District P. A.'s.

Mr. WEDD seconded and the meeting agreed to adopt this course.

THE PLANT PESTS BOARD.

Mr. L. C. Maudsley was elected a member, in the place of Mr. R. Maclure who was thanked for his services.

Motor Traction.

THE LIMIT OF WEIGHT IN MASKELIYA AND DICKOYA.

Mr. H. G. ECCLES (Hon. Secretary, Dickoya P. A.) forwarded copies of very interesting correspondence which passed between him and the Colonial Secretary on the question of motor traction in the Maskeliya and Dickoya districts.

On July 1st, Mr. Eccles wrote to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary as follows:—

"I have the honour to bring to your notice that the development of the transport business along the main roads of the districts of Dickoya and Maskeliya is greatly impeded by the existing regulations controlling the weight and size of lorries; and would urge upon Government the necessity of increasing the limit to five or four ton vehicles for the following reasons":—

1. Forwarding Agencies and others interested are hesitating about purchasing light lorries when regulations may be amended to enable their capital to be invested in a more substantial and economical type at a comparatively small extra cost per vehicle.

2. Owing to the recurrent diseases of cattle these firms possess stock short of their requirements, and by substituting a cheaper and inferior animal cannot cope with the same bulk of transport per cart.

3. Deficiency in transport arrangements is the chief cause of the congestion of goods at the Hatton Railway Sheds, and accumulation of produce at factories.

4. The mechanical and structural stability of heavy lorries over the lighter type are important points viewed by prospective purchasers.

In submitting this suggestion to Government I feel confident the important matter will have your most careful consideration.

THE HON. MR. STUBBS'S REPLY.

I am directed to state, for the information of your Association, that Government is fully alive to the difficulties experienced by those interested in motor-transport by reason of the regulations imposed as to the weight of lorries, and that the question is having the fullest consideration of Government. It would, however, be unsafe at present, in view of the nature of most of the existing roads and bridges in your districts, to raise the limit of weight at present authorised by the regulations. (2) I am to add, however, that the authorised weight of lorries allowed to run on the Hatton-Norwood road has been now raised from 3 tons to 4 tons, and the question of a similar increase in respect of the various Maskeliya roads is under consideration."

TESTING THE BRIDGES.

The CHAIRMAN: In this connection I believe steps have been taken to test the bridges in the Maskeliya district and I hope soon to hear the results and whether an increase in the tonnage will be conceded to Maskeliya ("Hear, hear").

I think we might take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Eccles for the trouble he has taken in obtaining this information from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and for sending us copies of the correspondence.

The meeting agreed.

MATALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Matale Planters' Association was held in the Borrom Memorial Hall, Matale, on Saturday (30th January) at 2 p.m. Mr. H. S. Cameron, Chairman, presided. Present:—Messrs. A. Thorp, Gerald Abbott, C. J. Hutchinson, Dan Joseph, J.P., G. P. Kelly, H. W. Vickers, R. P. Gorton, J. Malcomson, E. M. Windus, E. M. Biggs, C. A. Evans, J. A. M. Bond, C. Pern, J. L. Hayden, D. A. Steele, G. A. Greig, Henry Malcomson (visitor), and J. F. W. Brockman, Hon. Secretary. —Mr. E. M. LeFevre wrote regretting his absence.

RAILWAY FACILITIES.

Mr. ABBOTT proposed:—

That the Manager, C.G.R., be requested to run the morning train on Sunday again, as the present arrangement delays passengers and mails by about ten hours precluding delivery of mails in some parts of the district *in toto*. Should both trains on Sunday be impossible, that a morning train be run and not the afternoon train, also that an evening train be run to Kandy on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. JOSEPH seconded and the resolution was carried.

PRICE OF RICE TO COOLIES.

The HON. SECRETARY read the letter of December 23rd, regarding the price of the issue of rice to coolies, received from the Parent Association Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: At last meeting we were of opinion that the best thing we could do was to leave the matter to individual members as to whether they were to adopt weight or measure in the issue of rice. Three points have been raised; and our Committee was against the desirability of having concerted action in this matter. I do not think that concerted action is feasible. We ought to have a Committee to go fully into this subject.

Mr. WINDUS: A Committee by all means.

The following sub-Committee was then appointed for the purpose:—The Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Messrs. E. M. Biggs, C. A. Evans, J. Malcomson, E. M. Windus, A. Thorp, J. L. Hayden.

THE CEYLON TEA GIFT.

The HON. SECRETARY next read the Maskeliya resolution regarding the Tea Gift sent under date January 6th.

The CHAIRMAN said the resolution was approved and warmly supported by the Committee. He was quite sure their Association was in full sympathy. Agreed.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The HON. SECRETARY read the letter from the Director of Agriculture dated December 15th.

The CHAIRMAN emphasised the penalty in store for anyone failing to notify the existence of Shot-Hole Borer on one's estate; a fine of Rs. 1,000 or 6 months' imprisonment, or both.

ANNUAL REPORT.

During 1914 subscriptions paid amounted to 86 compared with 81 for 1913. At the end of the report will be found an alphabetical list of Members of the Association. The finances of the Association are quite satisfactory, and show a credit balance of Rs. 255.69. While on this subject it should be pointed out, that if members would only pay up their annual subscriptions at the

beginning of the year, it would save much in extra postages, and incidentally the Hon. Secretary save good deal of unnecessary labour. During the past year under review four general meetings have been held, preceded in each occasion by a Committee meeting. The attendance at all meetings has been very good, and members have shown themselves fully alive to the interests of their districts.

ROADS—are generally in good order, and the repairs now being made are reassuring, when general complaints with regard to retrenchment are heard on all sides. Mr. Stevens has been succeeded by Mr. de Kretser.

CRIME.—The thefts of praedial products have not caused much trouble during the year, partly doubtless to the fall in prices of rubber, and cocoa. An exception must be made re the theft of cardamoms and coconuts, and Government does not seem to have been willing to assist the sufferers, by passing the special legislation desired.

EXCISE.—The Excise Scheme has met with some criticism, and the Association has supported the principal of the Ratnapura Association's resolution, one feature of which is the proposal that Government should ask District P.A.'s to appoint members to visit and report on the taverns of the District.

WEATHER—has been on the whole favourable. The northern and eastern parts of the District suffered from drought in the S.W. Monsoon; but otherwise rains have been well distributed and there have been no serious floods, nor heavy damage to roads and the railway.

TEA.—The season just ended has been most favourable for tea experienced since 1910. The first six months of the year under review were remarkable for crop, in so much as although the rainfall was moderate, yet the distribution of the same was so equable, that tea was in better heart (in the absence of any serious drought), than had been the case for the previous three years. More especially was this noticeable on the estates situated on the Matale flat, which began to really show a good recovery from the effects of the disastrous drought which did so much damage in 1911. The second six months of the year were not quite up to the standard of the previous period, since the South-West Monsoon was largely a failure. This resulted in a shortage of crop in August and September; but the welcome September rains caused very free flushing in October, although the bright prospects were somewhat dimmed by dull weather in November and December. Prices throughout the year have been good. A small acreage of new land has been opened up in tea, but in the absence of definite figures, and owing to the scattered position of the clearings, this extent is difficult to estimate. Some tea has been cut out from under growing rubber, and some rubber cut out of old tea. On estates where a decrease of crop has been noticed, the decline may be generally attributed to the interplanting of the tea with rubber and not in any way to unfavourable climatic conditions. Prospects for 1915 appear good more especially on those estates which have not allowed their cultivation programme to lie in abeyance, from a desire to curtail expenses during the War.

COCOA.—After one of the poorest Autumn seasons that was ever known in the Matale district the cocoa crop in the Spring of 1914 ran to about the average—by no means sufficient, however, to bring the seasonal crop of 1913—14 to anything near a normal one. The failure of Autumn and Winter crop was due to the very severe drought in August and September followed by torrential rains immediately afterwards in October. The result being what might be expected it was in no way due to any bad condition of the trees generally speaking; indeed the general aspect of the cocoa estates was, before the drought, better than for some years; and they quickly recovered afterwards. This fine appearance was maintained throughout the present year, and at one time there was promise of an exceptionally heavy Autumn crop this year. The promise however has not been altogether fulfilled and the crop generally in the District do not appear to be above the average.

DISEASE.—One result of the failure of last year, when such crop as there was chiefly early, was to leave the trees remarkably free of disease. This year on the other hand the crop is not early, and the North-East Monsoon setting in betimes caught the pods at a stage when they are liable to disease, and not only have large quantities been destroyed but doubtless it would turn out that disease will be sufficiently prevalent in the trees later on.

PRICES—have on the whole been steady, though for some time after the outbreak of the War, the market was very depressed and the local market collapsed altogether. Locally, this condition continues to a great extent but at the time of writing there seems to be some revival reported from London.

On cocoa estates generally the conditions of the residents—Superintendents as well as coolies—as regards health appears to have been better than for some years. Certainly there has been much less fever since the serious outbreak that followed the drought of the Autumn of 1913.

RUBBER.—1914 proved an excellent year for rubber on the whole in Matale. Matale South, perhaps, benefited more than other parts of the district owing to a fairly well distributed rainfall during the usually dry months of May to September; crops were not checked, and a considerably higher percentage of rubber crop was gathered during these months than is usual. The heavy rains in November and December, interfered with crop a good deal, and signs of disease—bark rot, canker, etc.—began to make their appearance here and there. They were soon checked, however, with the return of more favourable weather and the health conditions of Matale rubber are yearly improving. There has been a good deal of thinning out among the rubber in Matale and these estates where this has been done, have found a marked improvement in bark—renewal, and a marked reduction in disease. Prices have fallen during 1914, of course, but the cost of production has also fallen in a very satisfactory manner, and serves to compensate the reduced price. It is very noticeable how much fewer coolies are being required to work the rubber estates as they get into full bearing, and this reduced labour will, of course, mean cheaper working. Very little extra acreage has been planted up during the year.

CARDAMOMS.—There has been a fair crop this year, far exceeding last year's. This is probably owing to favourable weather during the blossoming season. Although there was never any great show of blossom at any one period, what blossom did appear seems to have set exceptionally well. Prices have been good up to August. All round parcels of well bleached cardamoms fetching at times Rs. 3.80 or thereabouts, in Colombo, but since the war broke out the price of the same quality dropped to about Rs. 2. There have been no large extensions in this product this year, the appearance of the stools, and the good show of new racemes at the present time promise well for the early part of next year.

COCONUTS, PEPPER, AND CROTONS.—The year under review has been a very favourable one for the two former products; prices especially for coconuts fell very much just after the declaration of War, but towards the last quarter of the year a rapid and welcome recovery has taken place. Pepper prices have also suffered, but this loss has been made up by a very good crop. Crotons have only produced a medium crop, and most of this has been sold at low prices. The following gentlemen have very kindly contributed to the annual report, and the thanks of the Association are due to them for their work:—Messrs. Abbott, Bolling, Bond, Hayden, Lenox-Conyngham, Thorp, the Chairman, and Hon. Secretary.

OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1915.

Chairman, Mr. H. S. Cameron, Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. M. Bond.

COMMITTEES.

MATALE NORTH.—Messrs. J. C. Tribe, A. Thorp, R. P. Gorton, H. B. Thompson and G. A. Greig.

MATALE EAST.—Messrs. Bruce Westland, G. P. Kelly, C. A. Evans, C. J. Hutchinson, E. M. LeFevre and J. Malcolmson.

MATALE SOUTH.—Messrs. C. P. Anderson, H. Storey, John Taylor, E. M. Biggs, J. S. M. Arnold and H. D. Garrick.

MATALE WEST.—Messrs. J. B. Tennant, J. M. S. arlow, E. M. Windus, J. L. Hayden, D. A. Steele, and Gerald Abbott.

ELKADUWA.—Messrs. F. J. Reiss and H. L. Anley.

MATALE TOWN.—Messrs. Dan Joseph, J. P., and W. Miller.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. E. M. Biggs (acting for Mr. H. D. Garrick), J. F. W. Brockman, A. Thorp, Gerald Abbott, E. M. Windus, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. A. Thorp and J. A. M. Bond.

D. R. C.—Messrs. A. Thorp and H. A. Storey.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. A. Thorp (acting for Mr. H. D. Garrick), and the Chairman.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

The **CHAIRMAN**: I think Mr. Abbott's resolution about Sunday mails covers postal matters. If it becomes necessary, the Secretary may write to the P.M.G. to put in a motor car or employ runners to convey Sunday mails.

Mr. **MALCOMSON**: It is a great hardship we are experiencing at present.

TELEPHONES.

Mr. **BOND** (Honorary Secretary): Messrs. Abbott and Brockman have taken in hand the Telephone Scheme this year, so we may be sure to hear something definite ere long.

ROADS.

Mr. **ABBOTT** proposed "that steps should be taken to prevent empty carts being drawn up at corners where these corners have been cut back to render these corners less blind. The space so cleared is seized upon by cart-owners to draw up empty carts there, thereby making the corners as dangerous as before, if not worse, notably at Elawella."

Mr. **EVANS** in seconding, drew attention to carts having no lights.—Carried unanimously.

STRAY CATTLE NUISANCE.

Mr. **EVANS** proposed "That the Matala P.A. draws the attention of Government to the stray cattle nuisance especially on Kandy-Matala road with a view to mitigating this."

Mr. **BIGGS** seconded "nem con."

LABOUR.

The **HON. SECRETARY** here read correspondence from the Labour Commissioner at Trichinopoly of November 14th re the appointment of a clerk or agent at each station on the C. G. R. in planting districts to meet all trains conveying coolies from Mandapam and Ragama, and the P.A. Chairman's covering letter of January 15th.

The **CHAIRMAN** said the proposals did not meet with their support in the Committee meeting. It was suggested that the Chairman be thanked.

The **HON. SECRETARY** next read the P.A. letter of January 15th re coolies proceeding to Coast and the advisability of rupees being given to them in preference to notes. Also letter of 22nd January covering the Ragama Camp Superintendent's letter of January 7th re Cooly Bills.

The Association decided to get 100 copies of the "Gazette" notice of December 19th printed for the information of their coolies.

The **HON. SECRETARY** read a letter of January 12th from Mr. M. Stevenson, A.G.A., asking for a copy of their annual report.

It was suggested that copies be sent to the Kachcheri, as well as to Matala Reading Room. Further circular correspondence was here read.

PRICE OF FOODSTUFFS.

The **CHAIRMAN** said they had come to Mr. Dan Joseph's resolution:—"That Government be requested to regulate the prices of foodstuffs in the Matala District." It was a very useful one.

MATURATA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The 13th annual general meeting of the Maturata P.A. was held at the Gonakelle Pavilion on Wednesday, the 20th instant. Present: Messrs. T. H. Williams (Chairman), R. R. Jacques, D. Lyall, H. Allen, P. M. Lobo, R. K. Bowie, E. B. Robinson, A. V. Gould and A. N. Paine (Hon. Secretary.)

ANNUAL REPORT.

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 12 Estate Members as compared with 16 last year, the deficiency being that groups which used to pay more than one subscription now no longer continue to do so. The subscription during the year was altered as follows:—Rs. 2.50 for each 500 acres or part, and each 500 acres or part to carry one vote in the local P. A.

FINANCE.—There is a credit balance of Rs. 53.12 only, owing to our surplus funds having been voted for two charities.

MEDICAL.—We have to thank Mr. Robinson for the following report on the Maturata Hospital, and are glad to note that all is in good order. Date of visit: January 19th, 1915. Number of patients at time of visit: Males 7, Females 11, Total 18. Wards. In good order and very clean. Latrines and Bathrooms: Very clean. Food: Sufficient and good. Grounds: In very nice order and well looked after. Staff: Consisting of D. M. O., Dispenser, 2 Male attendants, 2 Female attendants, garden cooly and latrine cooly, all on duty at time of my visit. Remarks: I consider the Hospital and grounds are in very good order and very well-kept, and that everything generally reflects very creditably on the D.M.O. and his staff.

LABOUR.—has been settled in the District though on the short side; advances are inclined to be on the increase.

WEATHER.—has been abnormal, the unusually severe drought being followed by continuous rain.

CROPS.—have been somewhat short, and prices satisfactory. There are 6,323 acres in tea of which 6,140 are in bearing. Estimated crop for 1915 3,250,000 lbs. or 530 lbs. per acre, and native tea 20,000 lbs.

PESTS.—Shot-hole borer has been reported from two estates.

CARDAMOM CROP.—has been good and prices till the war satisfactory. Acreage: 152 acres. Estimated crop for 1915: 10,000 lbs.

DISTRICT ROADS.—It is to be regretted that our request for a representative on the D.R. Committee, Nuwara Eliya, has not been granted, though we have to thank the A.G.A. for coming to

inspect the washaways on the Ellamulle-Mandara Nuwara Road. The District roads seem to have been in very bad order, chiefly owing to the damage done in 1913.

RICE.—The price of rice has ruled high and most estates have suffered a heavy loss towards the close of the year. However the price has now dropped considerably and it is to be hoped will be normal in 1915.

TRANSPORT.—During the early part of 1914 a severe outbreak of rinderpest occurred on the Kandy-Padiyapelella road and caused great inconvenience to the estates using this road.

TELEPHONES.—during the year were erected on most estates in the upper part of the District and have so far given every satisfaction.

OBITUARY.—This District has had to suffer no local loss during the year though poorer in conjunction with the whole Island through the deaths of Mr. Joseph Fraser, Colonel Gordon Reeves and many other prominent men.

THE PRICE OF RICE.

was then discussed and all present agreed to charge the same price per bushel, and the Hon. Secretary was also asked to send out after fixing same with the sub-Committee the price of rice to be charged every month.

THE LOCAL LABOUR FEDERATION

was next on the Agenda and everybody agreed to abide by the terms, which were as follows:—

“That no Estate in this district do take on any cooly from another Estate in the District, except the one cooly for purposes of marriage which may have been arranged.”

The Resolution from the Maskeliya P.A. was unanimously supported.

Mr. LYALL having taken the Chair *pro tem* said he thought the Meeting could not do better than by re-electing Mr. Williams as Chairman during 1915 and also proposed Mr. Robinson as Hon. Secretary. Carried unanimously.

Mr. WILLIAMS briefly returned thanks.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

The following gentlemen were elected to serve during 1915:—

KANDY COMMITTEE AND PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. D. Lyall.

HOSPITAL VISITOR.—Mr. C. F. S. Shaw.

Mr. D. LYALL next said:—I should like to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Robertson, of the P.W.D., for having so much improved the condition of the High Forest-Bramley cart road.

Mr. WILLIAMS seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

There being no further business the Meeting terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chair.

E. B. ROBINSON,
Hon. Secretary.

NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Nuwara Eliya District Planters' Association was held at the Hill Club, Nuwara Eliya, on Saturday, the 23rd instant, at 2-30 p.m. preceded by a meeting of the Committee.

Mr. A. J. VOLUM (Chairman) presided at both meetings, and the other members present were:—Messrs. H. J. Temple, R. Ivan Hughes, W. P. Spurway, J. Nettleton, E. C. Elliott, Rayner Smith, E. G. Coulson, A. L. Sinclair, W. R. Mathew, J. Mactier, H. Drummond Hay, E. H. Mellor, L. O. Gilliat, R. F. Megginson (Hon. Secretary) and P. M. Johnson (visitor.)

After the usual preliminaries, the CHAIRMAN said the first business before the meeting was to confirm the following resolution carried at the last meeting:—“That Nuwara should be included as section of the Nuwara Eliya district, with equal power of representation.

The CHAIRMAN said he had pleasure in seconding the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was to receive the annual report and statement of accounts, which were as follows:—

ANNUAL REPORT, 1914.

MEETINGS.—In the year under review five Committee and four general meetings were held. The average attendance was slightly better than in the previous year.

The register of voters shows a membership of nineteen estates, and nine private voters, an increase of three private voters on 1913.

FINANCES.—The funds of the Association are in a satisfactory position, with a balance of Rs. 42-89 to be carried forward.

TEA CROPS.—The annual official estimate of the tea crop for 1915 is given below compared to 1914:—

	Total Estates.	Acreage in tea bearing.	Crop.	Yield per acr.
1915 ... 19	7,689½	6,184	3,606,450	583
1914 ... 19	6,867	6,008	3,540,000	589

The season generally has been favourable though not so good as 1913, which was a record.

Rainfall was plentiful and fairly evenly distributed.

TEA PRICES.—For the first seven months of the year the markets in London and Colombo were both good, and high prices were realised for teas from this district; but since the outbreak of war, through short stocks the London prices have been exceptionally high, while lack of freightage has depressed prices locally.

LABOUR.—The health of the coolies in the district has generally been good, and the average supply sufficient for all ordinary requirements.

THE PRICE OF RICE has again been abnormally high, rising to the highest point in October, when the cost of some estates was as much as Rs. 7.00 per bushel. Under these circumstances losses incurred by the issue of rice at usual rate have been exceedingly high, and it is a regrettable fact that no solution has, as yet, been found to improve the position.

ROADS.—The condition of cart roads in the district show general improvement, but still leaves much to be desired. Our thanks are due to the D. E. Mr. Robertson, for the prompt manner in which he has considered and, where possible, acted upon suggestions put forward by this Association.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.—The working of these departments the district has given satisfaction with the exception of the delay in delivery of telegrams owing to shortage of telegraph papers.

HOSPITALS.—These have been visited by the unofficial visitor appointed who report as under:—On Thursday, 7th January, 1915 I visited the Nuwara Eliya Hospital and was shown round by Mr. D. M. O. On this date there were twenty male and sixteen female patients receiving indoor treatment as against an average of fifty

four per diem of both sexes for the whole of last year. The wards, latrines and surroundings generally were clean and well kept, and the completion of the cutting at the back of the new wards has effected a great improvement in the airiness and general appearance of the buildings. It is to be regretted that in consequence of the Government's scheme of retrenchment owing to the war the erection of the new kitchen, for which funds had been voted, has been deferred, as the present building is far too cramped, unhygienic and not in keeping with the standard of efficiency to which this hospital has now been brought in other and less important respects. The cutting of the new approach road to the Baker's Ward and completion of the bridge across the stream below the Infectious Diseases Ward have also been postponed, without much justification in the case of the bridge, as the masonry abutments are practically finished and much of the ironwork is on the spot, which is unlikely to improve by lying in the open pending erection, while the saving effected can hardly be worth considering. With a portion of the funds collected for additions to the Baker's Ward furniture, two movable reading desks have been provided and a wheeled couch was ordered from England, which was, however, lost in the s.s. "Chilkhana" when sunk by the "Emden." Fortunately the loss was fully covered by insurance, and another couch is now on its way out and expected shortly. There is still a small balance of this fund to be expended, which it is proposed to lay out on the advice of the Matron in the purchase of various inexpensive articles making for the greater comfort of the patients using this ward. The two new wards for middle-class patients have been used on several occasions of late, and are undoubtedly providing a boon to those for whom they are intended, and it would be well to make their advantages known more widely among estate employees, such as conductors, teamakers, clerks, schoolmasters, &c. The grounds for the hospital were clean and well swept, but require turfing in front of the new wards, which I was informed will be done as soon as funds are available.

E. C. ELLIOTT, Unofficial Visitor.

VISITED JANUARY 9TH, 1915, AT 2-30 P.M.

The Medical Officer, Dr. G. Van Twest showed me over the Hospital. The subordinate staff was all on duty.

PATIENTS.—There were twenty male and fourteen female patients under treatment in the native wards; no patients either in Baker Ward or Infectious Diseases Ward. No complaints.

WARDS.—were all clean and in neat order.

KITCHENS.—I entirely endorse what Mr. Elliott has written on this subject.

GROUND are gradually being brought into order; much still remains to be done, concrete drains require refacing in cement in a good many places.

APPROACH ROAD.—All material for the bridge is on the spot except cement. Very little more work remains to be done: it appears very false economy to allow the iron work to lie about exposed to the climate, when with very small further expenditure both bridge and road could be completed and taken into use.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.—All wards have now been wired for at least nine months, but with the exception of the office, &c., no lamps have yet been installed.

NEWSPAPERS.—Thanks are due to the "Ceylon Observer" and to the "Times of Ceylon" for kindness in supplying their respective newspapers free for the use of inmates of the Baker Ward.

W. POYNTZ SPURWAY.

BAKER WARD.—A fund was initiated by this Association to supply certain articles considered necessary for the comfort of patients. The support accorded was as follows:—

Nuwara Eliya District P. A.	Rs. 135.00
Dimbula P. A.	85.00
Udappussellawa P. A.	75.00
Maturata P. A.	35.00
Ramboda P. A.	32.50

Total ... Rs. 362.50

THE PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND has been well supported, a sum of Rs. 505 having been subscribed against Rs. 465 in 1913.

The present European crisis has had little effect on the Tea Industry of the District, and full programmes of cultivation have, as a rule, been carried out. No limitations of rice issues to the labour forces or withholding of their pay has been found necessary.

PLANTERS' ONE DAY'S PAY FUND is being very satisfactorily supported.

(Signed) A. J. VOLUM (Chairman).
 " W. POYNTZ SPURWAY.
 " H. J. TEMPLE.
 " A. C. W. FERGUSON.
 " R. F. MEGGINSON (Hon. Secretary.)

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1915.

CHAIRMAN.—Mr. H. J. Temple.

HON. SECRETARY.—Mr. W. R. Mathew.

NUWARA ELIYA.—Messrs. E. C. Elliott and E. H. Mellor.

KANDAPOLLA.—Messrs. N. W. Davies and E. G. Coluson.

NEW GALLWAY.—Messrs. R. F. Megginson and R. I. Hughes.

WELIMADE.—Messrs. C. B. Nelson and A. J. Volum.

NANTOYA.—Messrs. W. P. Spurway and Rayner Smith.

KANDY REPRESENTATIVES.

The CHAIRMAN, Hon. Secretary, with Messrs. Neill G. Campbell and H. Drummond Hay.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—The Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Mr. Neill G. Campbell.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. W. P. Spurway and E. C. Elliott.

LADY VISITOR TO THE BAKER WARD.—Mrs. Nettleton.

LOCAL LABOUR FEDERATION.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business before the meeting was to consider the question whether they should rejoin the local Labour Federation.

The meeting was of opinion that planting etiquette was sufficient to guide them in dealing with labour matters, and considered the federation as senseless. It was unanimously resolved not to support the local labour federation.

CONDITION OF ROADS.

Mr. SPURWAY proposed the following resolution:—
 "That the District Engineer, Nuwara Eliya, be asked to attend to the following road maintenance works which this meeting consider to be of immediate importance, and in the event of his being unable to carry out such works with the funds allotted to his district, that he should be asked to forward the resolution to the Director of Public Works, with his remarks thereon: Udappussellawa railway level crossings—cutting back corner at 3½ mile on Udappussellawa road; finishing culvert at 3¼ mile on Udappussellawa road; rivetting rails to Ambawella bridge, completing bridge on the road to the Nuwara Eliya Hospital."

Mr. MEGGINSON seconded the proposition.

Mr. SPURWAY's motion was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

RAILWAY FARE TABLES IN THE VERNACULAR.

Mr. MEGGINSON next proposed the following resolution:—
 "That the General Manager, C.G.R., be requested to have the fare tables published in the vernacular, and that these

be prominently displayed outside the cooly booking offices at all stations on the line, and that a copy of this resolution be circulated among the other Associations for their support."

The resolution was then passed unanimously.

CEYLON'S TEA GIFT.

The HON. SECRETARY read a resolution from the Maskeliya P.A. to the following effect:—"That this Association would strongly urge that every effort be made to induce the large companies to support the Ceylon tea gift in a liberal spirit."

The meeting resolved to support the resolution.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letters were tabled:—Letter from the Hon. Secretary, St. John Ambulance Society, A. G. A.'s circular *re* plague precautions. Circular from the C.P.A. *re* medical wants.

CORONER'S VERDICTS.

A letter was read from the Colonial Secretary with regard to a rider added to a verdict by Mudaliyar Naganather, relating to the death of a vagrant. The Colonial Secretary intimated that Government was unable to interfere in the matter, as it was an opinion expressed by the coroner.

A circular was also read from the A.G.A., Nuwara Eliya, containing a rider added by Mr. W. A. Gordon, J.P., U.P.M., with regard to cloth cradles used for cooly children, and its evils, and that the remedy rested with the estate superintendents.

SCHEME FOR PREVENTING COOLIES FROM THE COAST GOING ASTRAY.

The Labour Commissioner's letter was then read.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY remarked that many important points had been touched upon in the scheme, he did not think it satisfactory to consider the subject hastily, and proposed that the Secretary should provide the members of the Association with copies of the circular, so as to give them an opportunity of studying the subject carefully, and that the matter could come up for discussion at the next meeting.

Mr. COULSON seconded.—Carried.

UNIFORM RATE FOR RICE.

The meeting was of opinion that the scheme was absolutely unfeasible, and could not understand how it could be worked, as different estates had different agents, the proprietors instructions to obtain their rice would be different, etc. Under the circumstances it was resolved that a reply be sent informing them that this Association regrets to say that there are many considerations which make it inadvisable to fix a uniform rate of rice for the Nuwara Eliya district or any particular section thereof.

PUNDALUOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held on the 11th January, 1915, at 3 p.m. Present:—Messrs. J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman), J. H. Marcel, H. L. Egan,

E. A. R. Innes and G. B. Stuart (Hon. Secretary).

Read letter from Mr. F. E. Paulet regretting his inability to attend.

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

ACCOUNTS.

A statement of accounts for the year ending 31 December, 1914, was read and passed.

Proposed by Mr. SIDGWICK and seconded by Mr. MARCEL:—"That a sum of Rs. 20 be paid towards Ceylon Tea Gift Fund."—Carried unanimously.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Chairman's annual report was read as follows:

C.P.R.C.—A detachment has been raised in this district during the year, and a drill-ground and range made in district.

CROP.—The season has not been so favourable for tea which is short on a number of estates, owing to continual weather since May. Weeds have caused no end of trouble, are causing a good deal of anxiety in the district.

LABOUR has been fairly plentiful, but still more Tamils required. Sinhalese are coming to work more since the broke out, and have made up for the shortage in Tamils.

RICE.—This has been rushed up in price, and although are being continually promised that rates will be lowered, present there are no indications. The loss on estates is heavy but at present we cannot see from where relief will come, Chetties seem determined not to lower prices.

ROADS.—We are glad to say that the Talawakelle-Watagoda road is opened, and propose thanking Government for finishing this road and at last opening up the District, which has for years been in need of it.

LIQUID FUEL INSTALLATION.—Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. have, at our request, opened an installation at Watagoda, which we are sure, will be a great convenience to the district. We propose thanking them for this. The Installation has now been open for three months.

GENERAL.—Fowl and other thefts have been very prevalent during the year, but now that we have a new Police force, we hope they will be able to check these better than the last lot.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1915.

The following members were then elected as Office bearers for 1915:—

CHAIRMAN.—Mr. J. B. Sidgwick.

HON. SECRETARY.—Mr. G. B. Stuart.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Mr. J. H. Marcel and Mr. H. L. Egan.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY VISITOR.—Mr. H. L. Egan.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. H. L. Egan.

HOSPITAL REPORTS.

Mr. Egan's report on the Ramboda Hospital and Pundaluoya Dispensary was read.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Parent Association *re* Incorporation of the Planters' Association.

Read letter from the Parent Association *re* Colombo Agents' Association's suggestions *re* price of issue of rice.

Resolved:—"That the matter was one that could not be dealt with by the Association."

Read letter from the Parent Association, enclosing copies of circulars from the Director of Agriculture *re* Shole Hole Borer. The Secretary was requested to write to Sec

ary, Planters' Association of Ceylon, asking if the rector of Agriculture had notified Native Estate owners the Ordinance referred to.

Read letter from the A. G. A., Nuwara Eliya, re opening of the Talawakelle-Watagoda road.

Read letter from the Provincial Engineer re Pundulu-Watagoda road.

MASKELIYA P. A.'s RESOLUTION.

After some discussion the Association considered that a resolution should be referred to the Colombo Agents' Association, as it is a matter which is in their hands.

RAMBODA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The sixth annual meeting of the Ramboda Planters' Association was held at the Ramboda Resthouse on Wednesday, 13th January, at 9-30 a.m. Present:—Messrs. N. C. Rolt (Chairman), W. de Lemos, H. Fenning, H. C. Lankester, J. H. Marcel, E. L. S. Agar, P. L. Steuart, Chas. Marzetti, C. W. Newton and A. F. Howie (Hon. Secretary), together with the following visitors:—Messrs. J. B. Edgwick (Chairman, Punduloya P.A.), M. G. Hewson, R. Wood-Wright, and A. L. Chalmers.

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT.

We have the pleasure to report that our Association continues in a flourishing condition, the number of estates on the register being the same as last year. The acreage in tea is now 5,637 and the estimated tea crop is 2,874,000 lbs., being 536 lbs. per acre for tea in bearing. There are some 20 acres of rubber, exclusive of that is planted in the tea.

ACCOUNTS.—The balance at credit of the Association is Rs. 31.15 after paying all liabilities.

MEETINGS.—We held four well attended meetings during the year.

OBITUARY.—At our last meeting we had to report the death of Mr. E. Grimston, and regret now we have to record the death of his son, Capt. H. S. Grimston of the Wiltshire Regiment, killed in action, who shortly before his death had been promoted for gallantry in the field. The Association wish to place on record their deep sympathy with Mrs. Grimston on the death of her only son.

WEATHER.—The past year has been a fairly favourable one for crop, the weather having been normal. The rainfall has been lower than the average, but there has been an absence of sunshine, the rain being well distributed.

PESTS.—Shot-hole borer is prevalent in the lower part of the district, and there is some root fungus on the upper estates.

RICE.—The cost of this and other foodstuffs has been abnormally high since the outbreak of the war. We note with regret that the special committee appointed by the Parent Association to go into the question of the coolies' food supply does not appear to have arrived at any practical result.

TRANSPORT.—There was only one outbreak of rinderpest in Gampola early in the year, and transport has been in a more satisfactory condition than last year. The roads have been opened to motor traffic, but this is of little practical value as the Gampola bridge is not available for lorries.

ROADS.—The Gampola-Ramboda road has been kept in good repair, but the portion from Ramboda to Nuwara Eliya is in bad order, the steam roller having been required elsewhere, and the opportunity of laying metal during the wet weather has been lost. The washaway which occurred last December at Westward Ho has not yet been put in order.

CATTLE STRAYING.—This is as bad as ever, and does not seem to have received the attention of the authorities.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S FUND. This was well supported, the sum of Rs. 1,278.84 having been collected. The One Day's Pay Fund is subscribed to by all the planters in the district.

VOLUNTEERS. Three men from the district have volunteered for active service. It is regretted that the C.M.R. and C.P.R.C. receive no local support.

This Association much regrets the early departure of the oldest resident in the district in the person of Mr. W. de Lemos, who was the first Chairman of the Association. His presence and advice will be greatly missed at our future meetings. He will have the best wishes of all members for health and happiness in his retirement.

(Signed) N. C. ROLT, Chairman.

A. F. HOWIE, Hon. Secretary.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

CHAIRMAN.—Mr. N. C. Rolt.

HON. SECRETARY.—Mr. C. J. Marzetti.

THE KANDY COMMITTEE.—The Chairman with Messrs. H. C. Lankester, G. W. Newton and the Hon. Secretary. Acting J. P. and U. P. M.—Mr. J. H. Marcel. Hospital Visitor.—Mr. Ed. L. S. Agar. Hatton Nursing Home.—Mr. N. C. Rolt. The post of Coroner remains vacant.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed that Mr. de Lemos be elected an Hon. member of the Association, and this was unanimously agreed to.

THE PRICE OF RICE.

Read letter from the Planters' Association of Ceylon re the price at which rice should be issued to coolies. Resolved:—“That the Association adhere to their resolution passed at the meeting of 28th November, 1913, and that a copy of the proceedings on that occasion be sent to the Parent Association.”

(Maskeliya P.A. Resolution.)

THE TEA GIFT.

While supporting the resolution, the meeting suggested that the Colombo Agents' Association rather than the working superintendent should take the matter up.

THE TALAWAKELLE ROAD.

Read letter from the A.G.A., Nuwara Eliya, announcing that the Talawakelle road was now open to traffic.

PRESENTATION.

This was all cordially agreed to and terminated the formal part of the proceedings, when Mr. Rolt, rising, said he would like to make a few remarks on the forthcoming

retirement of Mr. de Lemos. In the course of an eloquent speech he referred to Mr. de Lemos's long residence in the district, his kindness of heart and his unbounded hospitality. After referring to his own distress at parting from so old a friend, he said he had been deputed to present Mr. de Lemos with a cheque for Rs. 600 as a little token of esteem from friends both in and out of the district.

Amidst a scene of great enthusiasm Mr. de Lemos's health was then drunk.

Mr. DE LEMOS, who appeared somewhat taken aback, in a few simple words made a touching reply, and said come what might he would always regard himself as a resident of Ramboda.

RANGALLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Rangalla Planters Association was held at Ferndale Drill Shed on January 16th. There were present:—Mr. H. B. T. Boucher (Chairman), Messrs. C. J. Pattenson, R. H. Ellis, J. McClellan, A. H. Kerr, C. B. Clay, and C. F. Broad (Hon. Secretary.)

ANNUAL REPORT.

The following report was submitted by the Chairman:—

MEETINGS.—During the year there have been four meetings, which were well attended.

MEMBERSHIP.—There are 19 estates on the register.

FINANCE.—The balance sheet for the year ending 31st December was read and passed.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—There are six estates and two private subscribers.

WEATHER AND CROPS.—Both Monsoons were very severe and tea crops were rather below average, although the first half of the year was particularly good. Prices have been very satisfactory.

RUBBER.—The year was rather a wet one for tapping, but the rubber is healthy and growth for the elevation is fair.

CARDAMOMS.—The wet weather has suited cardamoms and crops were larger than in 1913, but owing to the war prices have fallen considerably; sales have been difficult. The Home market has kept up better than the Colombo one. Total crop for 1914 was 376,321 lbs. against 436,997 in 1913. The theft of cardamoms still goes merrily on, villagers of Medamahanuwara combine still and get their living principally from the proceeds of the stolen cardamoms. Probably twenty per cent. of our crop is lost really owing to the inadequacy of the law to protect us.

PESTS.—Shot-hole borer is about the only pest in the district.

LABOUR.—Owing to the war very few coolies have been recruited from the coast during the last few months.

ROADS.—Roads were considerably improved during the year. Many crossing places were put in and bad corners improved. The surface was much improved, but if the grants are cut down the roads will soon get into very bad order. The steam roller did a vast amount of good and it is to be hoped that it will be put on to these roads more in future. Urugalla-Nugagolla road has had good work done on it, but it is to be regretted that the work of cutting back corners has now been stopped.

DISTRICT ROADS.—In fair order. Ferndale bridge needs pairs badly.

TRANSPORT.—Rinderpest was very bad during the first part of the year. Much difficulty was experienced in getting crops away.

The Motor Lorries run by Government worked with success up to the end of September and we much regret that have been taken off these roads, and still hope that owing to frequent outbreaks of cattle disease which may at any time threaten the district with starvation, Government will see way to resume the service.

HOSPITAL.—Mr. Kerr reported as follows:—

CRIME.—It is to be regretted that the proposed cardamom Ordinance has been hung up, as cardamom thefts are still prevalent and there is no check on the receivers.

EXCISE.—In the opinion of this district the new regulations have done much good.

TELEPHONES.—The telephone service has again proved useful. Wooden posts are being gradually replaced by iron.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter from the Maskeliya P.A. re Tea Gift was and supported unanimously.

A letter was read from the Chairman of the Pa Association re Colombo Agents' Association Scheme issue of rice. A resolution was passed that members of this Association have made their own arrangements and are working smoothly.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

The following gentlemen were elected to serve for current year:—

CHAIRMAN.—Mr. H. B. T. Boucher.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Messrs. W. Sinclair, C. B. Clay, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—Mr. C. B. Clay.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs. W. Sinclair, and A. Kerr.

COAST AGENCY COMMITTEE.—The Chairman and Mr. Sinclair.

HON. SECRETARY.—Mr. C. F. Broad.

SABARAGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Sabaragamuwa Planters Association was held on Saturday at the Wace Memorial Hall, Ratnapura. There were present:—Mr. Geo. Broome in the chair, Messrs. E. C. Villiers, Hon. Secretary, P. Bridge, J. Hawke, J. Hoare, E. Maberly Byrde, R. Morris, H. Lamont, G. Dicks, J. H. Jolliffe, G. M. Craik, G. Greenshields, R. Mallaby, E. D. Constant, W. Attfield, A. H. Berry, A. J. Ingram, F. J. Poyntz Robe, J. Loudon, A. Nicol, L. W. Baker, D. T. Angus, C. Baker, M. S. Davidson and H. F. Pearson. Letters of apology were received from Messrs. D. R. Robertson and Meggett.

THE ACCOUNTS.

The CHAIRMAN said he proposed to say very little about accounts. The actual amount of money that they had hand was Rs. 229.11. If they took stock and cash together the total was Rs. 479.11. The accounts had been audited by Mr. Hawke, to whom their thanks were due. He thought they ought to be very satisfied with this state of affairs. (Hear, hear).

THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

In connection with the Labour Commission the CHAIRMAN stated that they went into this matter fully in Committee and they had come to the conclusion that it would be better if they did not have a representative on it. He thought a resolution would be brought forward to this effect.

Mr. HOARE then formally and briefly moved:—"That the opinion of this Association the resolution passed at last general meeting with reference to the inclusion of a representative from this Association on the Committee of inquiry into labour conditions in Sabaragamuwa should be rescinded."

HOSPITALS.

The HON. SECRETARY said he had a private letter which stated that the Mahawatte Hospital is not being proceeded with, and that the present proposal for extension of Ratnapura Hospital on the site of the old gaol had been knocked the head and the hospital was going to be built somewhere else. He had had several letters sent in complaining the slowness of getting on with Kahawatte hospital; in fact it was not being got on with at all, and Ratnapura hospital was in very much the same state.

In view of the SECRETARY'S statement the following letter makes interesting reading:—

Colombo, Jan. 4th, 1915.

The Hon. Secretary,
Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association.
Keenagaha Ella, Balangoda.

With reference to your letter A.R. of the 28th December, I beg the honour to inform you that there is no idea at present of erecting a new Hospital on the site of the jail at Ratnapura, and that the Kahawatte Hospital is being proceeded with.

2. It would save time to write direct to me rather than to rely for information to my subordinates.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) A. PERRY,
P.C.M.O. and I.G.H.

Mr. INGRAM then moved:—"That this Association regrets the action taken by Government in their retrenchment scheme and the postponement of the hospital at Kahawatte, and again draws the attention of the Colonial Secretary to the necessity of this hospital and would urge upon Govern-

ment the necessity of commencing its construction without delay."

Mr. HAWKINS seconded.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

THE TEA GIFT.

A letter was read from the Maskeliya P.A. asking the members to support the Ceylon Tea Gift in a liberal spirit.

It was agreed unanimously that it should be backed up as much as possible.

The Rakwana Committee in connection with this subject suggested that their subscriptions to the One Day's Pay Fund should be voted to the Million pound Gift of Tea.

The CHAIRMAN referred to the Association's desire to see the million pound tea gift through, and they wanted to put their money down to the Tea Gift if it was the feeling of the Association. More than half the month had gone by and only fifteen subscriptions had come in up to then. He trusted members would send in their subscriptions early as the last day was the 29th instant.

A letter was received from the Parent P.A. suggesting that coolies proceeding to the coast should be given rupees instead of notes as Ceylon notes are not negotiable without paying a commission in India.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE P. A.

The HON. SECRETARY read a letter from the Parent P.A. pointing out that subscriptions and registration of voters was now due.

COOLIES AND THE RAILWAY STATIONS.

A letter enclosing a draft of a scheme for attending coolies at railway stations was read from the Parent P.A. The scheme referred to was as follows, and it was stated that 1,761 estates were served by railway stations.

The CHAIRMAN said personally he thought these things should be left to District Associations to work out. There was no reason why they should not have a representative at Ratnapura. It seemed to him to be a sound thing. It would mean a good deal of work for some one and estates could put up a small subscription to work the whole thing.

Mr. VILLIERS alluded to the number of parcels received in the district. A large number were lost last year and this man could easily look after these. He thought it would perhaps come to about fifteen or twenty rupees per estate. When they considered they had seventy-five estates served by the Ratnapura railway probably a much smaller sum would suffice and they could employ a better man. Some one on an estate near by could supervise him.

Mr. POYNTEZ ROBERTS: The best thing is to leave it in your good services and those of the Hon. Secretary to evolve a suitable scheme to lay before us at our next meeting.

This course was unanimously adopted.

FOOD STUFFS AND INCREASED PRICES.

On this subject the HON. SECRETARY said that several gentlemen said they would send in prices. He had only had a very few but they all pointed to one thing and that was that foodstuffs have gone up in nearly every case by fifty per cent., in some cases by a hundred per cent. and in only a few thirty per cent. At the same time they had a letter from the G.A., dated during the early part of the war in which he said that by tom-tom fixed rates had been made known, and he asked to have reliable information brought to his notice of any increases. Kandy P.A. were taking up the matter very strongly indeed.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual report read by the SECRETARY and moved from the chair was adopted. For want of space we are obliged to hold it over till tomorrow.

NEW OFFICE-BEARERS.

CHAIRMAN.—Mr. G. Brown.

HON. SECRETARY.—Mr. E. C. Villiers.

LOCAL.—Rakwana—Messrs. F. J. Poyntz Roberts, E. R. E. Geddes, and R. Mallaby.

RATNAPURA.—Messrs. Hawke, Paterson, Ingram, P. S. Bridge, J. Hoare, D. Robertson, Maberly Byrde, G. M. Crabbe, H. Pearson, Holland G. Angus and C. W. Baker.

BALANGODA.—Messrs. E. E. Meggett, L. W. Baker and W. Dicks.

THE REPORT.

Your Committee herewith present the Tenth Annual Report of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association.

It has been a year of greater importance and interest than probably any other year in its existence. It has witnessed the prices of tea soaring above any previous year, and the price of rubber being steadily maintained in spite of the usual threats of approaching catastrophe owing to the perfection of the synthetic being obtained. We believe the nearest approach to this was attained by a rather mediocre piece of scrap. However, the time may come when the matter can no longer be treated with levity, but in the meantime let us congratulate ourselves that this "Dies irae" seems as far off as ever. The coconut and its products, like other produce of Ceylon, but slightly affects this District and may be passed over without comment.

Another item of interest has been the increasing discontent with the state of affairs in connection with our local jurisdiction, more fully dealt with later, and lastly, the terrible war which has for the last five months overshadowed the whole civilised world, and made itself felt in our midst in many ways. It is a subject dealt with later, but it is not out of place to mention here that, in spite of this, our produce sells as well if not better than before, and we think no serious set back need be looked for in the future.

OBITUARY.—Your Committee are glad to state that there been no deaths among our members, but we feel we cannot this subject without reference to the inestimable loss the plant community have sustained by the deaths of Messrs. John R. Joseph Fraser, Col. Gordon Reeves and John Aymer.

MEETINGS.—There have been four general meetings and Committee meetings, all of which have been well-attended.

Crop—the total acreage owned by estates is	76,71
Crop—the total acreage under cultivation	49,90
As against last year	450,00
An increase of	4,80

The total tea acreage is	25,765 yielding	9,563,000
As against last year	22,265 yielding	8,649,050
An increase of	3,500 yielding	913,950
The total rubber acreage is	23,753 yielding	4,311,600
As against last year	22,554 yielding	2,880,559
An increase of	1,199 yielding	1,431,041
The total acreage in coconuts	36 yielding	52,300 nu
As against last year	nil yielding	nil
The total acreage in cardamoms	354 yielding	24,800
As against last year	226 yielding	17,000

The anticipated crops for 1915 are :—

Tea	...	...	19,481,000 lbs.
Rubber	...	...	4,614,000 lbs.

Thus the District will be seen to have steadily increase size and crop, and may be said to have a very bright future front of it.

The number of estates on the membership roll is 83.

The number of estates on the membership roll is 74 last

The number of private voters membership roll is 2.

The number of private voters membership roll is 1 last y

FINANCE.—The position is distinctly sound. There have several heavy items of Expenditure this year, viz. :—A typew, a very large quantity of stationery, the printing and getting our books of rules, none of which will be so heavy in the forthcoming year, and yet we have a balance of Rs. 229.11 as against Rs. 30 last year. This shows a slight loss on the year, but if due allowance made for stock in hand, viz. :—Typewriter, say, Rs. 200. Station in hand, say Rs. 50, it will be seen that we have Cash and to the value of Rs. 479.11 or a nett gain of Rs. 113.21 over year.

RAILWAYS.—Satisfactory progress has been made this year the extension to Kahawatte, work having been started upon a many miles. It is a matter for congratulation that the application that this Railway should be continued to Opanaika have been met with success, and work has actually been started upon this further extension. It is to be devoutly hoped that the war and retrenchments contingent thereon will not interfere with the completion of this urgently needed scheme, or at any rate not for length of time. Meanwhile it must be borne in mind that not is settled re the Godakawella-Madampe extension and this will a great boon to all in that area, and should not be allowed to for want of asking.

PESTS.—Your Committee are pleased to state that diseases of rubber and rubber are not apparently on the increase and the new relations with regard to Shot-Hole borer should do much to confine evil to its present limits, where strenuous efforts will doubtless be made to cope with it. Your thanks are due to the authorities at Peradeniya for the courteous treatment which has been accorded to all who applied to them for advice, or information.

ROADS.—These show a considerable improvement on the condition at the same time last year. This condition was due, as was noted out, to no fault of the Officials but to the disastrous floods of 1913. No repetition of this having occurred improvement was to be looked for, and thanks to the energetic Provincial Engineer and his Assistants, this has been found. Kukul Korale Road.—Your Committee regrets that, in spite of the most pressing representations, it has been refused point blank, for the time being at any rate. A particular road, however, is in a disgraceful condition, for which there seems no excuse and that is the road from Balangoda to Rega-italawa. This is a very important road, connecting as it does the district with the Sabaragamuwa Province. Proper attention to this should on no account be refused this coming year. Bridge on minor roads which were being strengthened or rebuilt took much longer than was ever anticipated, but they are now finished far as possible.

EXCISE.—Last year some doubt was expressed as to the advisability of the action of Government in its scheme for controlling the sale of liquor, but experience has furnished proof that the scheme theory was excellent and that it only required some improvement of organisation to make it an unqualified success. A proposal has been made by this Association during the past year which, if carried into effect, your Committee believe will either solve your difficulties entirely or you will only have yourselves to blame. A word re Excise Advisory Committees will not be out of place. Apparently no single meeting of this body has been held in the past twelve months. Your Committee do not wish it to be understood that they have any grievance on this score, but merely wish to place the fact on record. Judging from the experience of Advisory Committees at other parts of the Island, it is just as well your Advisory Committee has best been called upon, for in those other Committees' decisions rulings have been generally made by one individual, and the representations and advice of other members totally ignored. It is to be hoped that the powers of these Committees and their members will be amplified shortly. This is necessary if they are to be of any use.

MEDICAL WANTS.—This Department, financed as it is almost entirely by the planting industry, seems to be one which fails to give the close attention from Government which one would expect. It is a matter of no small concern to find that the Kaba-ite hospital upon which we had such glowing promises made expenditure immediately and the balance to come, should not have been got on with. Let it be borne in mind that the hospital has been on the "tapis" since 1909, at which date it was considered a necessity. How much more is it the case now with the district's ever-increasing population and new estates being opened? Alterations and additions to the Ratnapura hospital are apparently at a standstill.

The Rakwana hospital seems to give general satisfaction and to serve its purpose well, while the Balangoda hospital shows a somewhat unsatisfactory state of affairs. In the first place the improvements promised and alterations have not been carried out, and secondly the frequent appeal for a sufficient staffing have met with no success. Consequently the District Medical Officer still has to do the work of two men, travelling enormous distances, and it is with great pleasure that your Committee note that his untiring energies have been duly appreciated in the report of the Hospital Visitors. The use of a portion of a Tea Estate for the burial of the bodies of patients that die in the hospital certainly seems unsatisfactory, and it is to be hoped that some arrangement will be made to rectify this if it can be done. The hospital reports are attached hereto for Ratnapura and Balangoda. Both Unofficial Visitors for Rakwana have recently left for the front, so that there is no report for same.

WEATHER.—No conditions of special moment are to be recorded, but it has been noticed that while the actual rainfall for the year is not generally in excess of 1914, yet the number of rainy days are greater, and the S.W. Monsoon seems to have prevailed without ceasing since March, and the N.E. has only come in fits and starts.

RINDERPEST. Your Committee regrets to inform you that there has been a great deal of this disease on all the roads among the cattle in the Province. It has seriously hampered transport and it is to be hoped that the day is not far distant when motor lorries will be a *sine qua non* as the means of transporting estate goods and produce. Every day sees the state of affairs nearer, and there is no doubt all will go well if it is not dealt some crushing blow in its infancy by disproportionate taxation.

BENEVOLENT FUND. The Committee views with regret the poor response that was made for subscriptions to the Benevolent Fund, and while they tender their thanks to those who generously subscribed on behalf of themselves, their estates, or both, they would earnestly beg members to help this deserving cause as far as they possibly can this coming year in spite of the many other pressing calls on their charity.

LABOUR.—Your Committee consider that on the whole recruiting from the Coast has been carried on successfully and taking into consideration the conditions that have existed against recruiting results have been better than were to be expected. The Cooly Depot originally proposed by this Association to be instituted in Colombo, proved a great success until the opening of the railway to India, and indeed as far as this Province is concerned, and on the strength of this, more depots are to be started at other centres. About 85 per cent. of our membership belong to the Proprietors Labour Federation. Unfortunately, however, the good which this Federation does to keep labour settled has been seriously discounted by the position adopted by our last two Magistrates. Your Committee feel they cannot express strongly enough their conviction that the sad position has done more to unsettle labour and create insubordination in the district than any mismanagement by Superintendents could have done. Further, in certain cases by advocating the giving of notice by whole gangs, for what may be a grievance of one man, they have caused suffering to hundreds of natives who have been unable to find employment in the district, and have had to wander without money and without food to a great distance. One point has been gained by the war, and this is that all members have agreed not to take on another's coolies unless tumbis are endorsed that there is no objection.

LOCAL JURISDICTION.—Your Committee regret that this question, as regards administration of the Ordinance with reference to immigrant labourers, is still in a most unsatisfactory condition; for example, your Committee know of cases where coolies who have stated that they do not understand Tamil or Sinhalese have been acquitted without apparently any attempt being made to find an interpreter of the special language, though one who could have

acted as such has been in Court at the time. Notice-giving, which was practically unknown, is now quite a common method employed by labour for leaving an estate. The honesty of the Kamasamy in money matters, hitherto recognised and admired, has now been undermined by insidious suggestions presented to the cooly by persons whose sole object is material and monetary gain to themselves, and by the unscrupulous kangany who, taking advantage of the D. J.'s explanation of the law, works upon his followers' ignorant minds, and becoming freed of his debts to the estate by giving notice, departs perhaps with the pick of his gang for the coast or elsewhere, leaving the rest destitute and uncared for to beg their living how and where they may. There is to be enquiry into the condition of labourers in this District held early in 1915, and it is hoped that this doubtful method of adjudicating in labour cases which does nothing to dispel a cooly's troubles will be duly noticed.

WAR.—This calamity which has overtaken practically the whole of Europe is making itself felt all over the world. All the Colonies of the Mother-country have rallied to her standard, and given of their best both in man and in kind. For ourselves as a planting community we have done what we could; whether as the premier Crown Colony we could not and should not have done more is beside the point in this report. We have at any rate tried to do our share, and our representatives are shrunk in number, we hope only temporarily. We miss from among us Messrs. Winthorpe, Turner, Maitland, Mathews, Stevenson, Ommaney, Faulkner, Coldwell, Green, Williams, Grierson, Featherstonhaugh, McTavish, Edkins, McKenzie-Penderell, Bayley, Cumberledge, Sherman, Croll, Martin, Crosby, Harvey, Smythe, Tytoun, Moser, May, Dunlop, Munroe, Rogers, Paterson, Dalgetty, Macdonald, etc., etc., while many others we know of are impatient to be off. Volunteering has had a great fillip given to it on the one hand, and there have been many recruits newly joined. Whether the Powers-that-be have not somewhat discounted this by their treatment of Volunteers, does not admit of inclusion here. There has been a Ceylon Contingent sent of 227 officers and men, and there have been offers of a second, but this has not been looked upon favourably. Instead of this a sop has been given to Cerberus inasmuch as the C. M. R. were called out for 10 days' training in Colombo. The C. P. R. C. have been recognised in that the Contingent was sent under their *aegis* while the C. L. I. have been mobilised most from the start. It is unfortunate that their patriotic endeavour to raise a Contingent resulted in somewhat of a fiasco.

The C.M.R.—As regards the C.M.R. locally there has been an increase of 8 during the year, but there would doubtless have been more had so many who might have been recruited not gone to the front. There have been two squadron camps during the year in addition to the mobilisation in Colombo during December. The whole strength are efficient with the exception of those who have gone to the front, and one who joined too late to become efficient. Taking things all round the troop had done very well.

The financial outlook, however, is very bright for both Tea and Rubber. At the commencement of the war every preparation was made to cope with the possible difficulties, but these happily were not forthcoming. The price of our produce has been well maintained, and the inclusion of a three penny extra duty per lb. of Tea has not so far, apparently interfered with the demand. Your Committee know that you will join with them in wishing the war a speedy and successful ending, and will be looking forward to the return of Ceylon's Contingent, and those who have gone in other ways to the war.

STRAY CATTLE.—Your Committee regret to note that this nuisance is considerably on the increase. Last year it seemed that some attention was being given to this and the trouble somewhat abated. Now no notice seems to be taken at all, and the cattle roam at their pleasure.

POSTAL SERVICE.—We have suffered but little this year from delay. It is time now that Motor Mails, so long agitated should be granted, and we have been told that the Postmaster General is this year going to ask for tenders for Motor Mails June.

REPORT ON THE RATNAPURA HOSPITAL FOR 1914.

We visited the Ratnapura Hospital on the 21st Dec. The D.M.O. and his staff were present.

We found the latrines, bath-rooms, and hospital grounds and well-kept.

The patients appeared to be comfortable and we received complaints. Food was in course of preparation.

There were 123 patients under treatment at the time of visit, of whom 72 were males and 31 females. There was overcrowding, but there were about 25 patients over the number for whom beds are provided.

The number of patients treated to date was 3,044 and the number of deaths was 490, equals to 16 per cent. The figures for last year were:—

Total patients treated 2,798.

Deaths.—581 equal to 20 per cent.

The accommodation the present hospital provides is sufficient and there is a certain amount of overcrowding unhealthy times of the year.

(Signed) J. HAWK

and H. A. PEARSON

Hospital

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BALANGODA HOSPITAL.

We visited the hospital on several occasions, and found everything in order except on one occasion, when it seemed to have been a good deal of slackness on the part of the D.M.O. as regards the general upkeep of the place as regards buildings. It is a great pity wild statements were made by the authorities that alterations and improvements were to be carried out but have not even been started.

Notice must be taken of the fact that in spite of the appeals for a D.M.A. nothing is done to relieve the person who has to travel from Halpe to near Palamadulla, and from there to beyond Mahawalanne. It is not surprising that he is often away from the hospital, and many complaints in that when a visit is wanted there is no one to send, as the D.M.O. is frequently away as well as the visiting Apothecary. It is tiredly due to the untiring energies of the D.M.O. that can be hoped with at all, and the sooner Government proper staff the better.

Owing to proposed retrenchment by Government, in money obtained from the planting industry, it will be repeating the needs of the Hospital as regards proper quarters, the building of an infectious diseases ward, etc.

One can only look forward to the fast approaching end of the war and hope that when they do the urgent needs of this district will be attended to.

(Signed) G. BRO

E. C. VII

